

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Quote Accurately

Read the short story and answer each question.



The Science of Animal Camouflage

Have you ever looked at a rock, only to realize it was a toad? Or noticed a patch of grass move, only to find it was a hidden insect? That's the power of **camouflage**—a survival skill that helps animals blend into their environments.

Camouflage is a form of adaptation. It allows animals to avoid predators or sneak up on prey. Some animals change their **color** or **pattern** to match their surroundings. For example, arctic foxes have white fur in winter to match the snow and turn brown in summer to match the rocks and dirt.

Other animals, like the cuttlefish, can change their skin **color and texture** in seconds. This rapid change helps them hide from both predators and prey.

Some animals use a special type of camouflage called **mimicry**. Instead of blending in, they look like something else entirely—such as a harmless butterfly that looks like a poisonous one.

Camouflage isn't just about hiding. It's about surviving in the wild. Animals that master this skill are more likely to stay safe and pass on their traits to the next generation.



Name: _____

The Science of Animal Camouflage

1. What is camouflage and why is it important?

- A. It helps animals make noise to scare away predators.
- B. It allows animals to blend in with their environment to avoid danger.
- C. It lets animals grow larger so they can defend themselves.
- D. It helps animals run faster from predators.

2. Which example shows how camouflage works?

- A. A bear sleeping in a cave
- B. An arctic fox turning white in the winter
- C. A tiger roaring loudly in the jungle
- D. A rabbit running from a hawk

3. Fill in the blank:

Camouflage is a type of _____ that helps animals survive in their natural habitats.

4. What can you infer about why some animals develop the ability to mimic something dangerous?

5. Choose one sentence from the text that clearly explains how camouflage helps animals survive. Why is this detail important?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: S

Lexile Level: 850L-1000L

Grade Level: 5th Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Informational – Science

Introducing the Text

“Today’s nonfiction text explains how animals use camouflage to survive. As students read, encourage them to pay close attention to how the author explains each idea. Students will practice quoting from the text and using that evidence to make inferences about animal survival.”

Vocabulary: camouflage, adaptation, mimicry, predators, texture

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you already know about camouflage in the animal kingdom?
 2. Why might it be important for an animal to avoid being seen?
 3. What do you think the word ‘mimicry’ might mean based on its root word?
-

During Reading Discussion Questions

1. How do different animals use camouflage in unique ways?
 2. What words or phrases help you understand how camouflage works?
 3. Why does the author include examples like the arctic fox and the cuttlefish?
-

After Reading Discussion Questions

1. What is one thing the text says directly about camouflage?
 2. What is something you can infer from the passage that isn’t stated directly?
 3. How would you explain camouflage to someone else using one quote from the text?
-

Activity Idea

Have students choose one animal that uses camouflage and write a short paragraph explaining how it survives using this skill. They must include at least one direct quote from the passage and one inference of their own.

