

Using Colour



Topic: Animals around us

Curriculum link: Living Things; Visual Arts

Text type: Explanation

Reading level: 10

Word count: 249

High-frequency words: have, they, for, some, to, a, or, other, this, has, it, off, them, on, can, be, other, give, that, will, not, get, the, from, want, same, as, where

Vocabulary: colour, mate, warning, hide, peacock, mandrill, cuttlefish, poisonous, survive

Possible literacy focus:

Using a contents page.

Using specific examples to explain a generalisation: "Many animals use...; This bird has..."

Follow-up activities

Sentence starters

Write the common sentence starters from the book onto cards.

Many animals ...

Other animals ...

Some animals ...

This _____ ...

Show the cards to the children and then read one of them out. Have the children find sentences in the book that start in that way. Invite children to read out the sentences that they find. Repeat this with each of the sentence starters.

Have the children use these sentence starters to write about a familiar topic.

Looking in depth

Ask children to choose an animal from the book. They can draw and colour their animal. Then they can write labels to show the different parts of the animal.

Sorting

Ask the children to cut out pictures of animals from magazines and stick them under the appropriate headings on a large chart like the one below. Encourage children to discuss the ways animals use their colours with their group to help decide where to place their picture.

	Animals Using Colour	
Finding a mate	Warning other animals	Hiding from other animals

Hiding animals



You will need:

pictures of animals that use colour to hide, paint, paper

1. Choose a picture of an animal that uses its colour to hide.
2. Paint a good place for this animal to hide.
3. Put the animal on the picture. Is it hard to see?
4. Write a caption about how your animal uses colour.



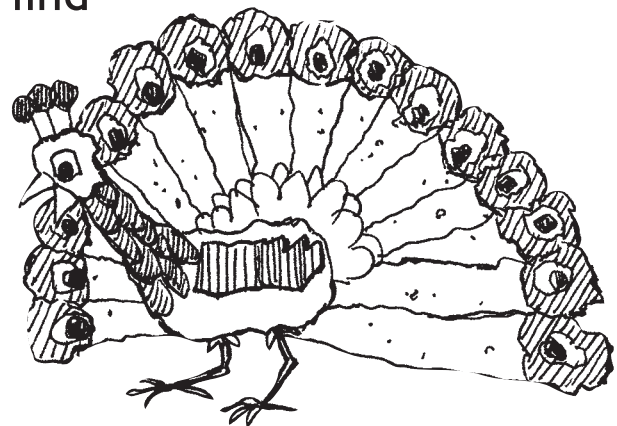
Design an animal



You will need:

coloured paper, glue

1. Tear paper to make an imaginary animal that uses colour to find a mate.
2. Write about how your animal uses colour.



Name _____

How do animals use colour?

Tick to show how each animal uses colour.

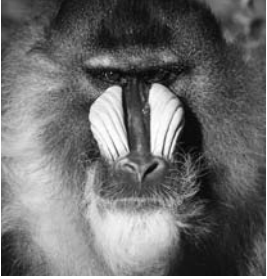



Animal	Finding a mate	Giving a warning	Hiding
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
			

Instructions Have the children use what they have learned about how animals use colour to fill in the chart. Children can then apply what they know to draw and write about other animals that use colour on the back of the sheet. Discuss animals that use colour in more than one way.

Name _____

Making generalisations

Write and draw.

Generalisation	Example	Illustration
<p>Many animals use colour to find a mate.</p> 	<p>This _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>Some animals use colour to give a warning.</p> 	<p>This _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>Some animals use colour to hide from other animals that want to eat them.</p> 	<p>This _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>Many animals use colour to help them survive.</p> 	<p>This _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	

Instructions Ask the children to provide a specific example to illustrate each of the generalisations from the book. Children should write a short sentence and draw a picture showing this animal.