

### About this activity

This activity will get you thinking about creature adaptations and understanding the diverse world around them.

### Kit list

- ✓ Butterfly shapes cut out of brown or grey paper (sugar paper or wrapping paper is fine)
- ✓ Crayons, scissors, pencils and/or felt tip pens
- ✓ Blu-Tack
- ✓ Objects to 'hide':
  - ✓ A piece of brightly coloured wool or pipe cleaner
  - ✓ Plastic animals in their natural colours
  - ✓ A square white sheet of paper (6 cm x 6 cm approx) and some patterned wrapping paper
  - ✓ Any other objects (optional)

**Time: 45 mins**

### Did you know?

- ✓ In 2019, the Wallace's giant bee was rediscovered as the **Largest species of bee**, females can reach up to 4.5 cm long – 4 times longer than the average honeybee!
- ✓ Found only in the plains of Kenya and Ethiopia, the Grevy's zebra is the **Rarest species of zebra** with a population of only 2,680 (as of 2016).

**Find out more from:**  
[kids.guinnessworldrecords.com](https://kids.guinnessworldrecords.com)

### Watch out!

Do not climb on anything to hide your creatures.

## The world around us

# Clever camouflaged creatures



### Instructions

- 1 Use the cut-out paper butterflies to explore camouflage by finding ways to hide them around the room. Talk about how camouflage works.
- 2 How easy is it to hide creatures that are a plain colour? Some animals, such as snakes, use patterns to hide. Others, like stick insects, use their shape to try to stay hidden. There are other ways of camouflaging as well.
- 3 Take it in turns to hide the other objects as quickly as you can. You are not allowed to cover them up. Think about:

- ✓ Where are they difficult to see? Why do you think that is?
- ✓ Where can they be seen very easily? Why do you think that is?
- ✓ Can you do other things to help to camouflage them?

### Next steps

This activity can be put towards a CREST SuperStar Award and there are plenty more online activities you could try for free. For more information, follow this link: [crestawards.org/crest-superstar](https://crestawards.org/crest-superstar)

Why not take photos and make a collage of lots of different creatures that often use camouflage? Use the facts below to do some research, if you like.

- ✓ Which object do you think will be easiest to hide? Why do you think this?
  - ✓ Where will it be best to hide them?
  - ✓ Will anyone be able to find them?
  - ✓ What if you change the colour of things?
  - ✓ What about their shape? Can you see a pattern that might help?
  - ✓ Do you think some places are better for hiding the objects? Why do you think this is?
  - ✓ Try putting each of them in different places.
- 1 Animals such as big cats have spots or stripes to blend with their surroundings. Zebras' stripes make it difficult for a predator to know where one animal ends and the other begins.
  - 2 Some animals have special skin that can change colour. Chameleons are the most famous of these.
  - 3 Female animals are sometimes better camouflaged than the males (e.g. pheasant). This is so that they are not seen when sitting on the nest or looking after young.