

**Project FOCUS  
Best Lessons  
FOURTH GRADE**

**Title of Lesson: The Use of Camouflage in Adaptation**

**Theme: Ecology**

**Unit Number: ??      Unit Title: Ecology**

**Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter codes):**

S4L2

**Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):**

**Habits of Mind**

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

**Content (key terms and topics covered):**

This lesson teaches about camouflage, masking oneself to blend in, and how that helps an organism adapt to survive

**Learning Activity (Description in Steps)**

**Abstract (limit 100 characters):** The concept is to get the children to make their own unique butterfly adapt to somewhere in the room

**Details:** Start with a powerpoint discussing what adaptation is followed by what camouflage is. Provide cool pictures of creatures in nature where camouflage works and where it doesn't. The children really respond to the cool lizards and stickbugs that you can't see. Then proceed to the activity. Each child gets a cutout of a butterfly/moth. Pair them up and each child needs to color the butterfly however they want so it will blend into a spot on the room. When both children in the pair are done coloring, ask them to take you to where their butterfly cannot be seen. Tell them whether they're correct or not. Then place the partner's butterfly in that spot and show how that butterfly does not blend in here; this teaches them that adapting may not be the same for all individuals within a species. Leaving the butterflies in the classroom perhaps on a wall or something will remind them throughout the year how organisms need to adapt.

**Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):**

printouts of a blank butterfly; one for each child  
crayons/markers which the children should already have

**Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):**

**A powerpoint really helps and they are fascinate by the pictures and it really helps them get creative with how they want to color their butterflies.**

**Sources/References:**

**1) <http://www.charlottesmartypants.com/images-for-csp/butterfly.jpg>**

**2)**

**3)**