

Blending Butterflies

Summary Questions:

1. What type(s) of camouflage were used to disguise the butterflies in the classroom?

Concealing coloration; some counter shading.

2. Which type of camouflage was the best at hiding the butterflies?

Concealing coloration.

3. Why do you think this type of camouflage made it difficult to see the butterflies?

...because concealing coloration allows an animal to disappear into the background.

What's an Adaptation?

Have you ever wondered why an animal or plant looks the way it does? These features are called adaptations and have been developed over time to help them to survive in their environment. Adaptations are used for a variety of reasons: collecting food, finding a mate, avoiding being eaten, keeping warm/cool and raising offspring.

- *Structural adaptations*
An inherited, physical feature which allows an organism to better survive in its environment
- *Behavioral adaptations*
Any behavior that helps an organism survive in its environment

4. In today's lab activity, why type of adaptation was seen: structural, behavioral, or both? Explain your answer.

The ability to camouflage one's self is both structural and behavioral. The butterfly has this ability genetically, but also chooses when to blend in and when not to blend in.

5. Identify each of the following as a structural adaptation or a behavioral adaptation:

a. Roar of a lion:

Behavioral

b. Color a cricket:

Structural

c. Strong legs of a frog:

Structural

d. Hibernation of a chipmunk:

Behavioral

e. Migration of birds:

Behavioral