

# PARENT NOTES

## Art & Design

### Observational Drawing



#### At A Glance:

- ✓ Cross-curricular
- ✓ Upper Key Stage 2
- ✓ Mixed ability
- ✓ National Curriculum
- ✓ On-site and follow-up activities.

#### What's Involved?

Students will make observational sketches whilst on the visit which will be followed up and developed into a piece of artwork.

On their return to school, they can extend and perfect their design, whilst learning about what makes good camouflage.



*“The only sure camouflage was unpredictability”*

- Margaret Atwood

#### About this activity

The task focuses on camouflage and students are prompted to observe how well some species of animals are camouflaged in their surroundings.

The sketches made whilst on site will be taken back to school and used to develop creative design ideas which will be used in a final piece of art work.

Activities are designed to appeal to students of all abilities in upper key stage 2 (years 5-6).

#### Questions & Answers

##### What is the task?

- ▶ Students make a number of sketches through close observation whilst on site.
- ▶ Back at school they will experiment with design ideas using the shapes and colours seen on the trip.
- ▶ They will then use a variety of techniques to create a piece of art work which demonstrates the concept of camouflage.

##### How does this link to my child's learning?

- ▶ This task links to the National Curriculum program of study for art, particularly sketching from observation and developing art and design techniques.
- ▶ It also supports the science program of study 'Living things and their habitats'.

##### What will they learn?

- ▶ Students will understand how an animal's markings can provide excellent camouflage and to demonstrate their understanding by making preliminary sketches through close observation.
- ▶ They will also use creativity and experimentation in art and design techniques.

##### How does this enrich study undertaken in school?

- ▶ The stimulus of an on-site visit is a great motivator for subsequent work.
- ▶ The students will be more actively engaged in their tasks, which will lead to greater success!
- ▶ A learning environment outside of school also allows children to apply self-management skills in a wider setting.

### What do they need to have done in preparation?

- ▶ Students could practise ‘having a go’ at looking very carefully and drawing what they see, and not what they think they see.

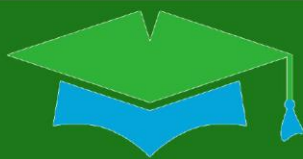
### What skills do they need to demonstrate?

- ✓ Observational skills
- ✓ Creativity and design skills
- ✓ Concentration
- ✓ Students will need to demonstrate the ability to apply learnt skills in a new context, self-management and an enthusiasm for acquiring new knowledge through observation and research.

## Helpful Resources

Encourage your child to research camouflage!

This activity was compiled by **Education Destination** in conjunction with **Amazon World Zoo Park**. We help students of all ages and abilities to experience excellent curriculum based learning opportunities at many Island venues and attractions.



[edudest.info](http://edudest.info)

At **Amazon World Zoo Park** you'll find an amazing location for learning! Students can learn about conservation and rainforests and come face to face with some of the world's most unusual, beautiful and endangered creatures!



[amazonworld.co.uk](http://amazonworld.co.uk)

For further reading about camouflage or conservation, **wikipedia** offers an excellent range of articles.

This would serve as an ideal introduction for learners prior to their visit, and is suitable for ages 7 upwards.



[wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org)