



PROJECT OCEANOLOGY



Camouflage Game Teaching Notes

Overview

This post activity helps to expand on the topic of camouflage as discussed in the nearshore fish shore program. In this game, students are tasked with coloring in a paper cut out flounder fish (listed below) to blend in with its surroundings in the classroom.

Engage

Ask students to reflect back on their shore program- discuss species caught, abundance of fish, diversity of the catch. Reflect on the area for their program and the immediate habitat. Ask what makes this a good habitat for these species, and lead into conversation about camouflage.

Explore

Allow students time to explore their classroom for a space that they want to camouflage their fish. Remind students that the fish need to be spread out across the room, and we want the fish to blend in really well.

Explain

Explain expectations for where the fish can be placed (ie. not behind any furniture, under anything, fish needs to be in plain sight). Also articulate that coloring of the fish must be at their desk/table, away from the place where the student intends to place the fish - if done right there, students will know where the fish is, defeating the purpose.

Optional- split the students into two teams (ie. winter flounder vs. summer flounder), allowing one team to hide and the other to seek, and vice versa.

Elaborate

Following the activity, reflect on some animals that use camouflage in a day to day, benefits to camouflage, and influences to camouflage.

<https://oceaninfo.com/list/camouflage-marine-animals/> - Additional resource for camouflage

Evaluate

Students can search the room for each of the camouflaged fish. Be sure to note how many were hidden before placement. Students can evaluate how well fish were camouflaged, placement of fish. Following the activity, students can reflect on where they would have hidden their fish if the activity was done again, or what they would have done differently.

