



Science
Age 2-5

Camouflage caterpillars

- Camouflage and adaptation
- Counting



Learning
through
Landscapes

Overview

- This active game develops understanding of camouflage and adaptation in the natural world. It also encourages counting and maths through outdoor play.

Equipment

- Different lengths and colours of wool including green
- A varied open space

Activity

1. Split the children into two equal groups.
2. Let everyone take some 'caterpillars' or 'worms' (link to counting/multiplication).
3. In two groups, hide strands in separate areas of the grounds.
4. When all worms are hidden, explain that the groups have now become hungry birds.
5. The two groups swap areas and find the other group's strands.

Check for understanding

1. Which colours were the hardest/easiest to find? Why do you think that was?
2. What colours do you think small animals would adapt to be and why?
3. Talk about food chains around this activity (tree - caterpillar - blue tit - sparrow hawk)

Learning outcomes

Play types	Social play - working together in groups
	Exploratory - making connections about the world around them
Motor skills	Develop fine motor skills by collecting different size strands of wool
Literacy and mathematics	Link to maths by counting the caterpillars and how many are left out to find
	Explore story books such as the hungry caterpillar/ten wiggly wiggly caterpillars
Self-directed learning	Allow children to explore different colours and match other natural items to woollen strands



If you would like to develop your outdoor learning knowledge and skills, take a look at our range of training courses: l.tl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training