

# “THE CAMOUFLAGE BUDDIES” GAME



By making “camouflage buddies” and then looking for them in the backyard, children will understand what camouflage is and how it helps animals hide from predators in the wild!

## INSTRUCTIONS

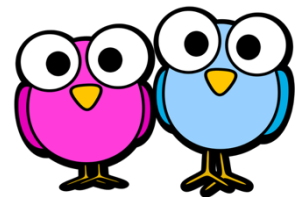
Grab 4-6 paper towel or toilet paper rolls to act as the “buddies”. Have the children decorate half of the rolls using bright colors and materials and decorate the other half using items from nature: leaves, twigs, bark, etc.



Once they’ve finished creating all the buddies, ask the children to wait inside/hide their eyes while you hide the buddies throughout the back yard. Do not hide any of them inside of something that completely hides it from view.

Next, let your children look for the buddies in the backyard. You can even use a stopwatch to record how long it takes them to find the buddies! Chat about which were easier and harder to find and why.

The naturally decorated buddies blended into their surroundings better than the brightly colored buddies because they were camouflaged! Camouflage helps animals hide from other animals in the wild.



## QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILDREN

- Which buddies were easier to find - the brightly decorated buddies or the naturally decorated buddies?
- What colors do you see on your brightly colored buddies? Where do you see those colors in your backyard? How about the naturally decorated buddies?
- If you were a rabbit hiding in your backyard from a hawk, would you rather look like a brightly decorated buddy or a naturally decorated buddy? Why?

