

Unit 2: Animals Surviving and Thriving

WEEK 5 Lesson 1

Science and Engineering
Animal Coats
Lesson from (<https://www.stemmaterials.org/inspired-by-nature/>)

S & E Big Ideas	Like people, animals also have coats that serve a specific purpose. Some coats are meant to keep animals warm. Some coats are meant to keep animals dry. Other times, an animal's coat is used to protect it from predators.
S & E Guiding Question	How are animal coats similar to coats that people use?
Content Objectives	I can discuss, write, and draw about how coats for humans are similar to and inspired by animal coats. (1-LS1-1)
Language Objective	I can describe how a coat is similar to and different from the coat of an animal. (SL.1.1)
Vocabulary	coat: an animal's covering of fur or hair. camouflage: the design or pattern on an animal's coat that allows it to blend in with its surroundings.
Materials and Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coats on Animals slides (slides 1-10)• Coats on Animals Planning sheet, one per child
Opening 8 minutes	<p><i>We have been learning a lot about animals. We have studied animals' behaviors and structures, and we've thought about how animal structures can inspire people and how people mimic special features of animals to help solve problems. Many baby animals are born with the adaptations that help them survive. Baby deer, fawns, are born camouflaged to hide in the woods and tall grass. Baby beavers, kits, are born with fur and can swim within 30 minutes of being born. Other animals like bear cubs are born blind and without fur, depending on their mother for survival until their eyes open and their fur coat grows in.</i></p> <p><i>Today, you will look at the coats animals have and compare them to</i></p>

	<p><i>your own coat. Why do we wear coats? Do we have coats for different purposes?</i></p> <p>Show children examples of coats on animals on the Coats on Animals slides presentation. Pause at each image and allow children to share their observations and connections. At each image, ask:</p> <p><i>Why do these animals have coats?</i></p> <p>At the end of the slides, ask:</p> <p><i>How are these coats similar to our coats? How are they different?</i></p>
<p>Investigation 20 minutes</p>	<p>Ask children to think of one animal that sparked particular interest for them. Invite children to Turn and Talk.</p> <p><i>Why is this animal so interesting?</i> <i>How does that animal use its coat to survive?</i></p> <p>Distribute the Coats on Animals sheet to have children write a one sentence explanation about how their animal uses its coat and to draw a picture.</p>
<p>Standards and Practices</p>	<p>1-LS1-1 Use materials to design a solution to a human problem by mimicking how plants and/or animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs.</p>
<p>Ongoing assessment</p>	<p>Take note of observations children make, questions they ask, and vocabulary they use in relation to biomimicry.</p>

Notes