

Stroop Effect



Purpose:

The way we see colour and process the things that we see is different than many animal species; they have different adaptations in order to be able to recognize and spot predators, as well as the ability to see and process light differently. Animal adaptations are amazing!!!

Let's think about how our eyes (and brains) process colour... and how fast we can process what we see.

For this activity you can use these sheets or use the link to print off cue cards for your students to use.

Try this test:

Read the chart, but do not read the words, say the colour of the words.

#1

RED	GREEN	BLUE	YELLOW	PINK
ORANGE	BLUE	GREEN	BLUE	WHITE
GREEN	YELLOW	ORANGE	BLUE	WHITE
BROWN	RED	BLUE	YELLOW	GREEN
PINK	YELLOW	GREEN	BLUE	RED

#2

RED	GREEN	BLUE	YELLOW	PINK
ORANGE	BLUE	GREEN	BLUE	WHITE
GREEN	YELLOW	ORANGE	BLUE	WHITE
BROWN	RED	BLUE	YELLOW	GREEN
PINK	YELLOW	GREEN	BLUE	RED

<file:///C:/Users/edu/Downloads/ministroop.pdf>
<https://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/pdf/ministroop.pdf>

What are some sight adaptations and abilities you think animals might use in order to survive in the wild?

(Some great examples are night vision, better depth perception “binocular vision”, a wider field of view etc.)

Secondary Activity:

Use empty paper towel or toilet paper rolls to mimic eyes on the side of the head vs. eyes on the front....

Looking at an animal's eye placement gives us a good idea about what their role is in an ecosystem, and insight into adaptations that animals have to survive or to catch prey. One of the sayings we like to use is “Eyes on the side meant to hide, eyes on the front meant to hunt”

This means that:

- If an animal's eyes are on the side of their head
 - They are meant to give it a better and wider angle of sight in order to see more of their surroundings at one time.
 - They are able to be more aware of their surroundings with less effort.
 - These animals are prey animals.
 - A good example of this is the Capybara. Their eye placement helps them to be able to spot predators while in the water, where they spend a great deal of their time.
- If an animal's eyes are more on the front of their head:
 - They are usually predator animals, and
 - The placement of their eyes helps them to see further and usually better or more focused,
 - This helps them when they are hunting as they can more accurately tell how far away their prey is.
 - A great example would be a lion or tiger. Let's see if we can imagine we are a predator or a prey animal.

Have students use the cardboard rolls, holding them up to their eyes to imagine that they are a predator animal. How does this change what they see? Discuss their observations.