

Camouflage and Natural Selection

Something to get you thinking...

What animals can you see here? Can you see them?



The animals in the pictures: peppered moth leaf tail gecko, and flounder, are all suited to their environments. They have adapted in order to **survive**. Their colouring means they are able to **camouflage** (blend in) with their surroundings and, as a result, are less likely to be spotted by **predators**, hunted down and eaten. This is fantastic for the animals...until the environment changes.

The Story of the Peppered Moth

It's story time! Listen to Mrs Lafford's retelling of 'The Moth' by Isabel Thomas. You can watch the beautiful illustrations of this book come to life on the Youtube book trailer-

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dMUUZNN89QQ&feature=emb_logo.

Find out more about the Peppered Moth and how it **evolved** through **natural selection** at - <http://peppermoths.weebly.com/> Try hunting for the two different coloured moths yourself on the game.

Have fun and be part of real scientific research with more camouflaged animals at:

<https://www.sensoryecology.com/games/>

If you want, you can create a comic strip version of the story. There is a template on our class web page and an example below.



The Story of the peppered moth.



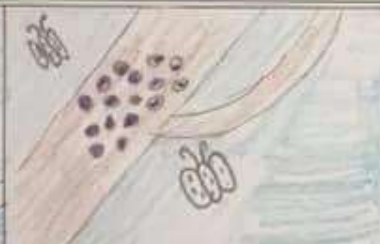
Dark and peppered moths, which are very common, are born.



Although most of the moths are speckled, sometimes there are mutations and charcoal-colored moths are born.



The black moth can't camouflage so are easily seen. Many are eaten.



The speckled moths, which survived, lay their eggs.



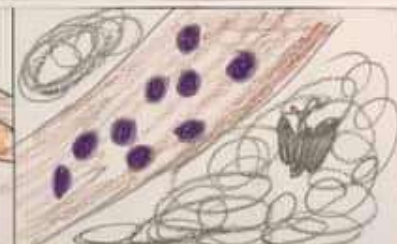
The eggs hatch so there are a lot more speckled moths.



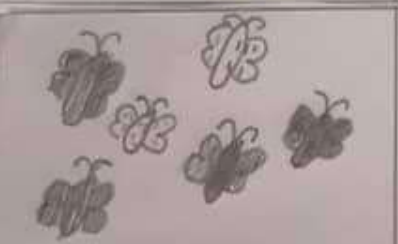
The bark on the trees started to blacken because of the industrial revolution.



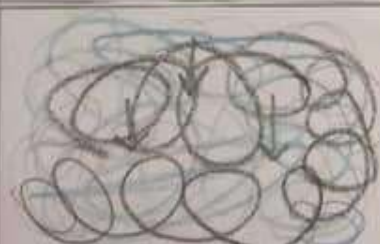
The peppered moths, which were a light colour, got survived.



Because the black moth survived, they could lay eggs.



Black moths, which are now more prominent, are seen.



Air pollution was going down but there was still a lot.



The speckled moths are camouflaged again.