

Insect Camouflage

Many insects protect themselves by using camouflage. Their shape, color, and markings may all work to disguise them from their enemies. Share some books with your child about animal camouflage or a particular insect that uses camouflage. Here are a few titles. Ask your librarian for other suggestions. Use face paint to create your own camouflage look with your child.

Dot and Jabber and the Big Bug Mystery by Ellen Stoll Walsh

Find the Insect by Cate Foley

Walkingsticks by Fran Howard

Make a Walking Stick

This is an easy craft to do with your child. When you've made one or two walkingsticks, you might play camouflage by taking turns hiding them in the yard and seeing if you or your child can find them.

What you need:

- small forked stick
- brown or black pipe cleaners, 12 inches long
- small wiggle eyes
- glue
- scissors

What you do:

1. Trim a forked twig so that each of the forks is about an inch long. The forked ends will be the antennae and the twig will be the body of your Walkingstick.
2. Fold one pipe cleaner in half. Wrap the center of the pipe cleaner around the twig and bend so the insect will stand.
3. Repeat step two with two more pipe cleaners. Your Walkingstick now has six legs, like all insects.
4. Glue wiggle eyes on the antennae.

