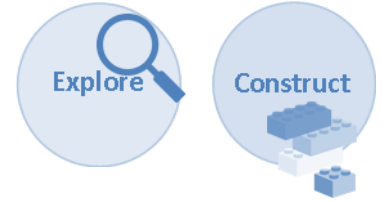


Markers/Colors



Objective: Students will learn how our eyes and animals' eyes see color

Location: Trail behind Big Field, or inside if you are doing an indoor night hike

Time: 5 min.

Method: Testing kids' ability to identify colors in the dark

Materials: Markers (one each of at least 4 different colors), or small cut up pieces of different colored construction paper

Background: Our eyes have two different types of cells in them: rods and cones. Cones help us to see color and rods help us to see black and white. We actually have more rods than cones, which is why when it is dark we can see shades of gray but not specific colors. Nocturnal animals, on the other hand, have more cones than rods.

Vocabulary: Rods, Cones

Procedure:

- Have students stand in a circle and have them hold out their hands
- Either mark each person's hand with one of the markers or give each person a piece of construction paper
- Have them try to identify their color without the aid of flashlights
- Talk to them about the two kinds of cells in our eyes: rods and cones, and what each one does.

Wrap Up:

- Tell the students that at the end of the hike they can check their hand or their piece of paper and see if they got the color right
- Walk for 3-5 min down the path before stopping to do the next activity.

