Either print the chameleon template (see resources section to the right) or draw your own on sheets of different colored paper. Cut out the chameleons (using your students’ help, if desired). During recess or another break, place the chameleons throughout your classroom, making sure some blend in with their surroundings while others stand out. When your students return, ask them to find the chameleons, setting a time limit, if desired. After the activity, ask if some chameleons were easier to spot than others. Which ones? Why? Discuss how camouflage (colors, patterns, and shapes) can help animals hide. Ask students why animals might not want to be seen (e.g. to avoid being eaten, to sneak up on prey, etc.). Can they think of any reasons animals may want to stand out? For instance, bees and wasps are very bright - does this help them survive? Yes! In this case, these animals are warning predators that they aren’t good to eat!

**PRE-TRIP DISCUSSION TOPICS**

- What kinds of things make up nature?
- How can we show respect to nature?
- How can we help protect plants, animals, and the environment when we visit natural spaces?
- What are some animals and plants you would expect to see at Wind Wolves Preserve? Where would you expect to find them?

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITY**

**CAMOUFLAGED CHAMELEON HUNT**

**Supplies:** Colored paper (variety of colors), scissors, pen/pencil (optional)

1. Either print the chameleon template (see resources section to the right) or draw your own on sheets of different colored paper.
2. Cut out the chameleons (using your students’ help, if desired).
3. During recess or another break, place the chameleons throughout your classroom, making sure some blend in with their surroundings while others stand out.
4. When your students return, ask them to find the chameleons, setting a time limit, if desired.
5. After the activity, ask if some chameleons were easier to spot than others. Which ones? Why? Discuss how camouflage (colors, patterns, and shapes) can help animals hide. Ask students why animals might not want to be seen (e.g. to avoid being eaten, to sneak up on prey, etc.). Can they think of any reasons animals may want to stand out? For instance, bees and wasps are very bright - does this help them survive? Yes! In this case, these animals are warning predators that they aren’t good to eat!