

# SUMMER SCIENCE

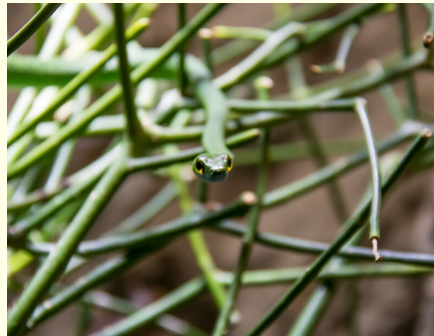
## ANIMAL CAMOUFLAGE

In many of our fantasy stories the main character has special tools or powers that helps keep him/her safe from danger. Some wizards and magicians can cast invisibility, like Harry Potter who can use magic cloak to become invisible.

Some animals are magical at how they can become invisible by using camouflage. Let's look at some pictures of camouflaged animals. Some are colored exactly like their surroundings and blend in:



Others are shaped to look like their surroundings



And some have the power to constantly change color and shape depending on what is around them



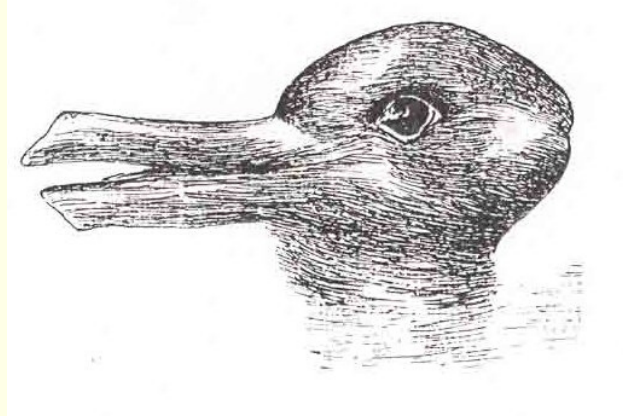
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## OPTICAL ILLUSIONS

Camouflage tricks the eye and makes it hard to see the animals.

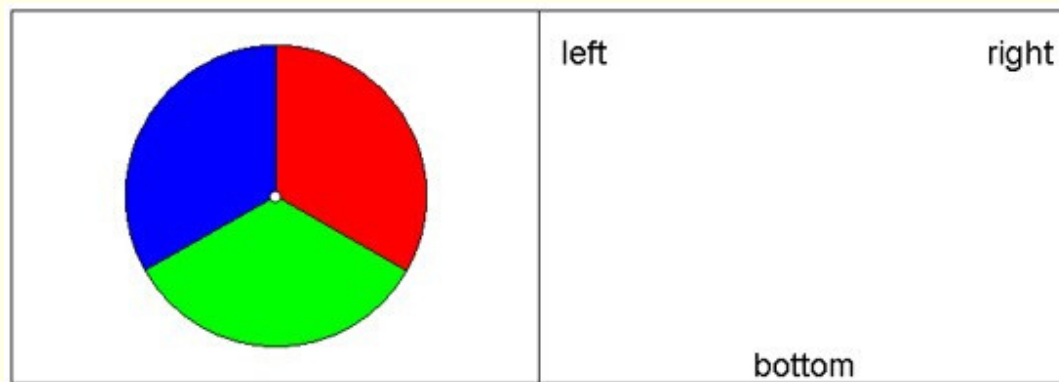
Our eyes can be tricked in a variety of ways. This is called an optical illusion.

Some illusions depend on perspective. Like this image:



What did you see? Some might say a bunny rabbit and some might say a duck. BOTH are correct!

Illusions can also occur when your eyes get tired of viewing the same thing. Stare at the small dot in the center of the colored circle for 15 seconds. Then look at the center of the white space.



What colors did you see in the left, right, and bottom? I bet they were different than the colors in the circle! That's because staring at the same colors can make your eyes tired. When your eyes are tired they send confused signals to your brain. This is why you were able to see a circle with 3 different colors but the colors were not the same as the original!