



Colour me in at home

6

Experiment with camouflage patterns and colours when you get home. Download some of the sketches from the family page on our website – iwm.org.uk

Then pick a location in your house, find some coloured pens or crayons and see if you can camouflage your sketch. Try making it blend with the carpet, curtains, wallpaper or the cat (if you have one!).

Remember you need to match the pattern as well as the colour.

Stand back and admire your work. Can you see your camouflage masterpiece from a distance or have you managed to blend it in completely?



Family Trail: Finding out about camouflage in the *American Air Museum*



Did you know?

1

Camouflage is a French word meaning 'disguise'. It can involve any combination of materials and colours for concealment. It can make animals or objects hard to see or can disguise them as something else. Aircraft need to blend into different environments so that they are more difficult to spot.

Topsy turvy

2

Why is the P-47 Thunderbolt painted with a green camouflage pattern on the top but not on the bottom?

The underside of the B-52 Stratofortress is painted black to camouflage it when flying at night.

What colours would you choose to camouflage aircraft flying over the jungle, the desert or the sea?

Did you know?

3

Not all aircraft were camouflaged. By the later stages of the Second World War some aeroplanes were left unpainted, like the B-24 Liberator. This was because the Luftwaffe (German Air Force) was virtually destroyed and posed no threat to the American bombers.

Can you find the B-24 Liberator?

Watch out there's a learner about

4

On a car you have 'L' plates to warn people it is a learner driver. One of the aeroplanes has been painted not to blend in, but to stand out. This is to tell people that it is being flown by a trainee pilot. **Which aeroplane do you think it is?**

Now you see me, now you don't

5

Find the supersonic SR-71 Blackbird. **How does this manage to escape the enemy?** It's very impressive!

