

Race for survival



It's a dog-eat-dog world out there! In today's challenge, you are a predator, hunting for prey. Better move fast—your survival depends on it!

1 Race for prey in Habitat #1.

Each team tries to collect as much prey as possible in three minutes.

Here's how to Play

- Line up with your team behind the starting line.
- When you hear “Go!,” the first person runs to the habitat, grabs the first prey in sight, carries it back to the starting line, and puts it in the cup.
- Once the prey is in the cup, it's the next person's turn.
- Pick up only one piece of prey on each turn.
- Go as fast as you can until you hear “Stop!”

2 Race for prey in Habitat #2.

Play again with a different habitat and different kinds of prey.

3 Record Your data.

Sort your prey from Habitat #1 by color and count up your pieces. Record how many of each color your team collected in the table marked “Habitat #1.”

Habitat #1

| Prey | # Collected |
|-----------|-------------|
| Newspaper | |
| Color #1: | |
| Color #2: | |
| Color #3: | |

Habitat #2

| Prey | # Collected |
|----------------|-------------|
| Wrapping paper | |
| Color #1: | |
| Color #2: | |
| Color #3: | |

4 Make a prediction.

What does this data from Habitat #1 tell you? Were some pieces of prey harder to see than others? What kind of results do you expect from Habitat #2? Sort and count your prey from the second habitat and record your results in the table marked “Habitat #2.”

5 share Your results.

Did your results match your prediction? Can you draw any conclusions about predators and prey in nature from the data you recorded?

Chew on This!

All living things have features that help them survive. Some animals have the ability to camouflage themselves. They have colors, patterns, and textures that help them blend into their surroundings, making it difficult for others to see them. (A gecko's rough, brown body looks just like tree bark.) Some animals use mimicry to hide—their colors and markings make them look like dangerous animals. (The harmless viceroy butterfly looks just like the poisonous monarch butterfly.) These features are critical for survival—they help animals hide from predators to avoid becoming their next meal!

Cool science Jobs!

Like learning about animals and camouflage? Then you might love one of these jobs.

Wildlife Biologist

Who gets within inches of black bears, bobcats, and Bengal tigers? Wildlife biologists do! They study all types of wild animals—from cuddly koalas to enormous elephants. They measure and weigh them, take blood samples, administer medicine, and track their movements and behavior in the wild. They also help save endangered species and restore habitats.



Zooarchaeologist

It's a mouthful to say, but a fascinating job to do! These scientists study animal remains found at archaeological sites. The bones, teeth, and shells of animals can provide valuable clues about how people once lived—what animals they ate as food, used for transportation, and kept as pets. Thanks to zooarchaeologists, we have a better understanding of ancient civilizations.



Watch the related FETCH! episode, "Feeling Sheepish, Rufff?," on PBS KIDS GO! (check local listings) or visit the FETCH! Web site at pbskidsgo.org/fetch.



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Fold

Fetch!

Race for survival

My great uncle's half-sister's cousin, twice removed, is a wolf who lives in the great outdoors and has to hunt for his food. I live in this doghouse and the only thing I have to hunt for is my Chinese take-out menu! Help me discover my inner wolf and practice my hunting skills by finding me some prey. And while you're at it, pick up some egg rolls, too!

GOOO FETCH!

