

Camouflage Puppet Show

Mouse: Oh, Hare, I'm so excited about Butterfly's birthday party. I know she's going to be so surprised!

Hare: Me too, Mouse. Butterfly does love surprises! I'm almost done making the cake for her. Then we can hide near those bushes and jump out to yell "Happy Birthday!" when Butterfly goes by on her morning walk.

Mouse: But won't Butterfly see us when she comes down the path?

Hare: No way! Our coats blend perfectly with our surroundings, so we'll be hidden well. But that bright skin of hers will warn us when she's getting closer. We'll see her before she sees us.

Mouse: *{jumping up and down}* Great! We really will surprise her! I can't wait! I can't wait!

Hare: Take it easy Mouse. She'll definitely spot us if you keep jumping up and down like that. It isn't enough to be the same color as your surroundings; you need to stay perfectly still, too, in order to be truly camouflaged.

Mouse: Camo...what?

Hare: Camouflaged. That means that it isn't easy for others to see you because you blend in what's around you.

Mouse: Oh, I see. Since I'm brown, I'm camouflaged when I'm near things that are also colored brown, like fallen leaves, soil, and those brown bushes over there.

Hare: Right! Those are just the kind of places where I'm well camouflaged too. When I'm wearing my brown coat, that is.

Mouse: You mean you have more than one coat?

Hare: Sure I do Mouse. I wear my white furry coat all winter so I can travel on top of the white snow without being seen. Your brown coat would be too easy for Fox to spot on the snow. It's safer for you to hide under that white blanket.

Mouse: Speaking of the color white, here comes our black and white friend, Skunk.

Hare: Why don't you tell him about our plan to hide and surprise Butterfly while I finish frosting her cake?

Mouse: OK, see you in a few minutes. *{Hare leaves and Skunk enters}* Hi Skunk! I'm glad you're here for Butterfly's party. Hare wants us to all hide near those bushes so we can surprise Butterfly when she comes by.

Skunk: But Butterfly will see me, Mouse. My black and white coat makes me stick out like a sore thumb.

Mouse: Oh I see what you mean. You aren't very well camouflaged are you?

Skunk: No, I can't blend in very well, but that's OK. When other animals see me, they run the other way. You know, Butterfly isn't camouflaged either, Mouse. Her bright coloring isn't bad taste; it tells others that she tastes bad. But now listen; I don't want to ruin the surprise party. I'd better leave.

Mouse: No, stay here Skunk. I'll find Hare, and we'll think of something. *{Mouse leaves, and then reappears, very agitated}* Run Skunk! Here comes ^{Coyote}~~Fox~~! *{Mouse leaves and ^{Coyote}~~Fox~~ enters}*

Skunk: Are you sure you want to come this way ^{Coyote}~~Fox~~? *{Skunk turns his tail towards Fox}*

^{Coyote}~~Fox~~: Uh. Um, I just changed my mind. Actually I'm heading this way. *{Fox leaves the same way he came in}*

Mouse: *{pops up}* Thanks Skunk! You're a lifesaver.

Skunk: Well, I guess my black and white coat came in handy after all.

Mouse: You bet it did! Gosh, I'm glad you were here Skunk. I sure am ready to find a safe hiding place. Hare told me we should go hide near those brown bushes. He said there's a large rock for you to hide behind too.

Skunk: I'm ready when you are! *{Mouse and Skunk leave}*

Hare: *{Enters calling}* Mouse? Skunk? The cake's done...Now where'd they go? They must be really well hidden. OK you two, here comes Butterfly now! I'll hide here and when she comes, let's all yell surprise. *{Hare leaves and counts from behind scrim}* One, two, three.. *{Enter Butterfly. Hare, Mouse and Skunk all pop up with cake}*

Hare, Mouse, Skunk: Surprise!!!!

Butterfly: A birthday cake? For me? What a great surprise! And you were all so well hidden; I didn't know anyone was around here.

Hare: Come on, Butterfly, we've got a birthday party to go to. *{To audience}* See you later, everybody...if you can spot us that is! *{Everyone leave}*