

The Mixed-Up Chameleon by Eric Carle



On a shiny green leaf sat a small green chameleon. It moved onto a brown tree and turned brownish. Then it rested on a red flower and turned reddish. When the chameleon moved slowly across the yellow sand, it turned yellowish. You could hardly see it.

When the chameleon had something to eat, it turned a sparkling green.

But when it was cold and hungry, it turned grey and dull.

When the chameleon was hungry, it sat still and waited. Only its eyes moved-up, down, sideways-until it spotted a fly. Then the chameleon's long and sticky tongue shot out and caught the fly. That was its life. It was not very exciting.

But one day...the chameleon saw a zoo! It had never seen so many beautiful animals.

The chameleon thought: How small I am, how slow, how weak! I wish I could be big and white like a polar bear. And the chameleon's wish came true. But was it happy? No!

I wish I could be handsome like a flamingo.

I wish I could be smart like a fox.

I wish I could swim like a fish.

I wish I could run like a deer.

I wish I could see things far away like a giraffe.

I wish I could hide in a shell like a turtle.

I wish I could be strong like an elephant.

I wish I could be funny like a seal.

I wish I could be like people. Just then a fly flew by. The chameleon was very hungry. But the chameleon was very mixed-up. It was a little of this and it was a little of that. And it couldn't catch a fly.

I wish I could be myself. The chameleon's wish came true. And it caught the fly!



Sentence builder

I wish I could

be big and white
like a polar bear.

be handsome
like a flamingo.

be smart like a fox.

swim like a fish.

run like a deer.

see things far away

like a giraffe.

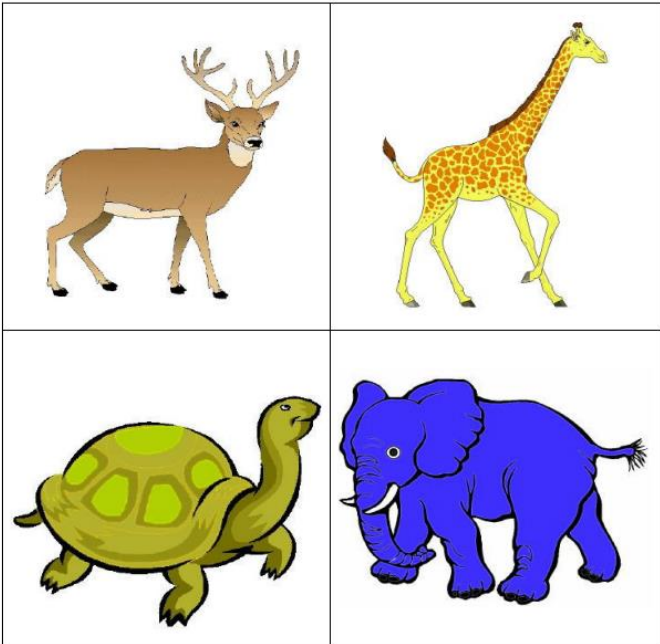
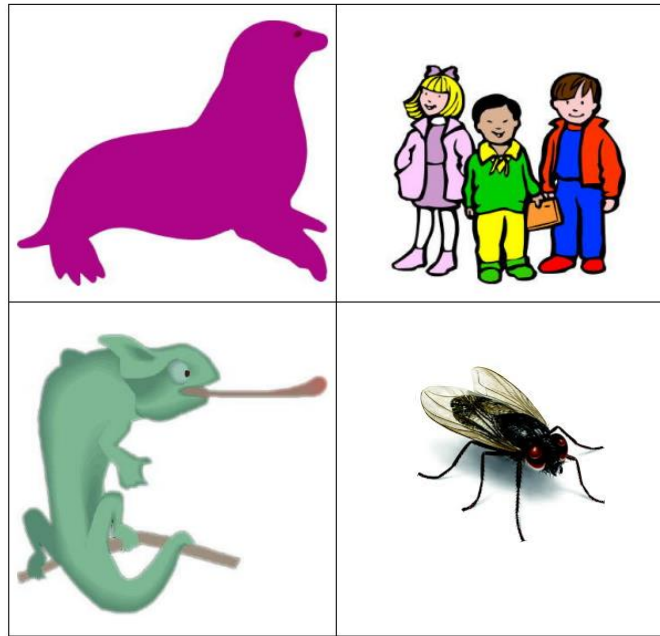
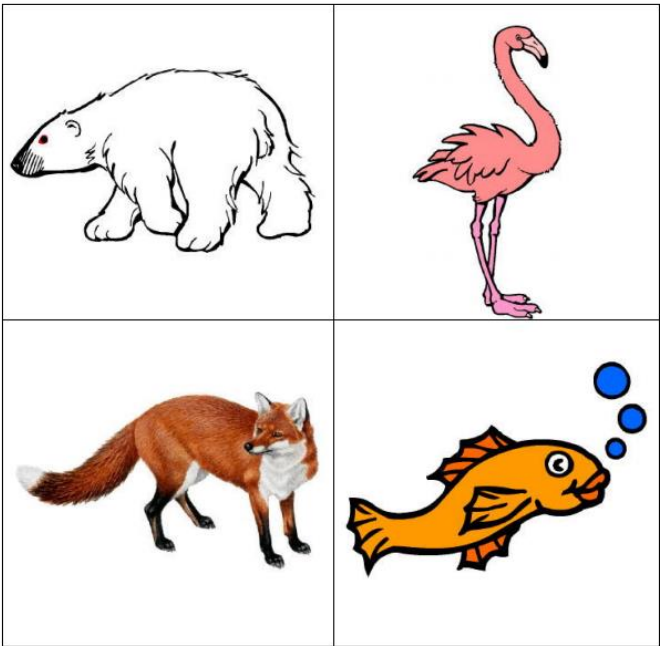
hide in a shell like a turtle.

be strong like an elephant.

be funny like a seal.

be like people.

be myself.



Sequence



Facts

A chameleon is a lizard that is able to change it's skin color.

A chameleon can turn pink, brown, blue, red, orange, green, black and yellow.

Unlike what is commonly thought, chameleons do not change colors to match their surroundings.

Chameleons change colors due to their physical condition, mood, temperature, light exposure, and efforts to communicate and attract a mate.

Chameleons are naturally colored for their surrounding as a camouflage.

A chameleon is a reptile.

Chameleons are found in Africa, Asia, and Europe.

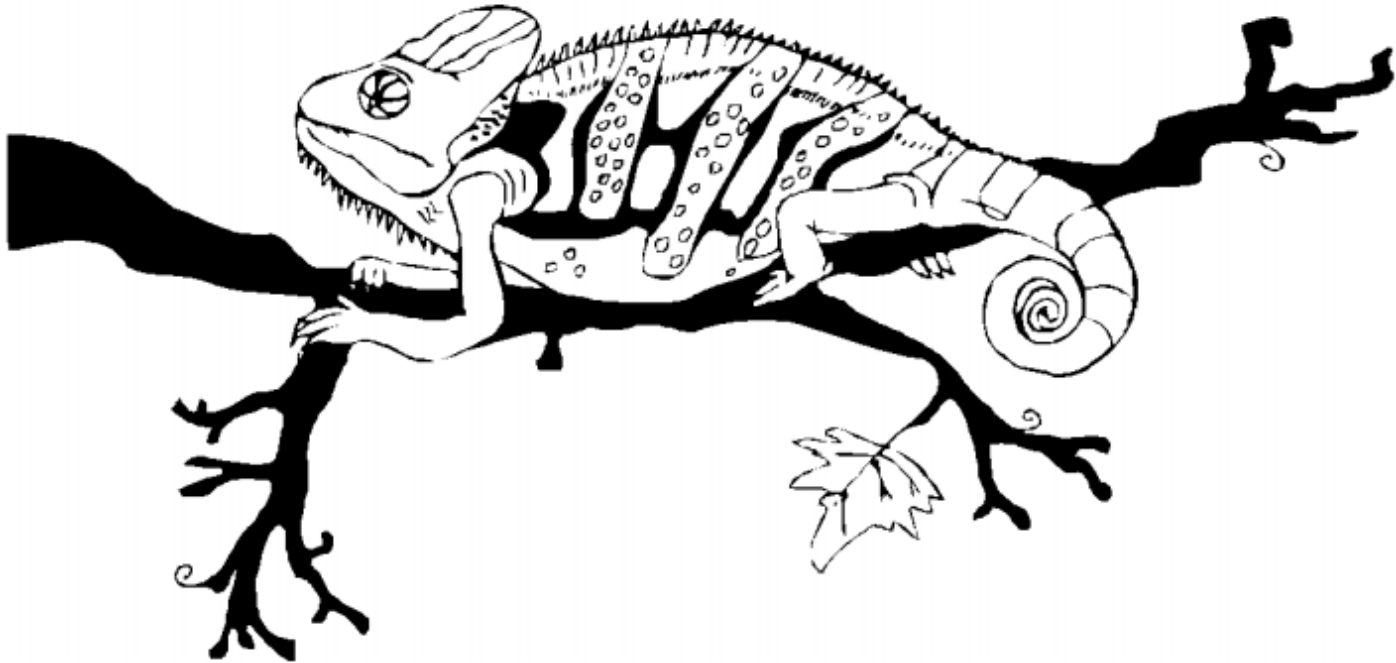
Chameleons have a poor sense of smell and are almost deaf.

They have very good vision.

There are 100 different species of chameleons.



Color the chameleon and add additional surroundings.
Write 3 things he must do to stay alive.



Research

What do they eat?

What do they do?

What do they look like?



Chameleons

Mix up animal craft activity 1

INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

- Several copies of the animal parts on cardstock
- Copy of Mixed Up Animal Mayhem for each student
- Old magazines to cut up
- Scissors
- Glue
- Background construction paper.

1. Cut the cardstock animal pieces apart to be used as templates
2. Students trace the pieces they want to use on magazine pages and then cut out their tracings.
3. Students glue the magazine page pieces on the background to create a new animal.
4. Students fill out the Mixed Up Animal Mayhem page about their animal, cut the writing portion off of the instructions, and glue it to the bottom of their background paper.

MIXED UP ANIMAL MAYHEM

Put together animal parts to make a new animal. Think about the jobs all those special parts can do. With its legs and tail, is the animal best in the water, air, or land? What would your animal be able to eat with the type of mouth that it has? What is it good at? What does it have trouble with? Attach your writing to the picture of your animal.

Meet the _____!
(animal name)

All animals have special parts that help them survive in their habitat.

With its mixed up parts, this animal moves the best

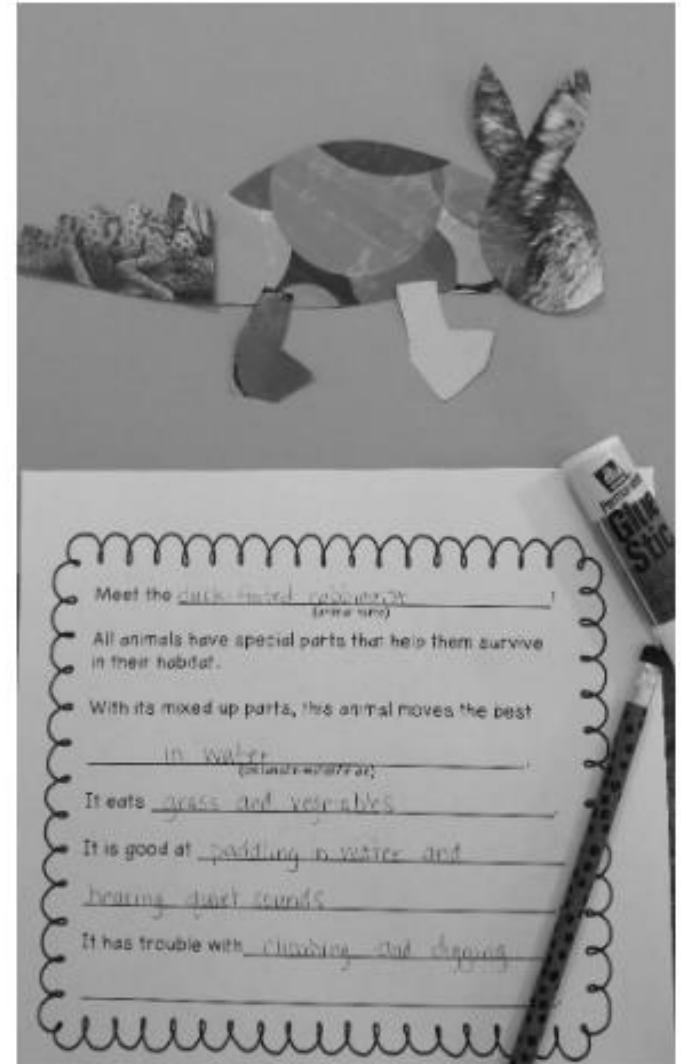
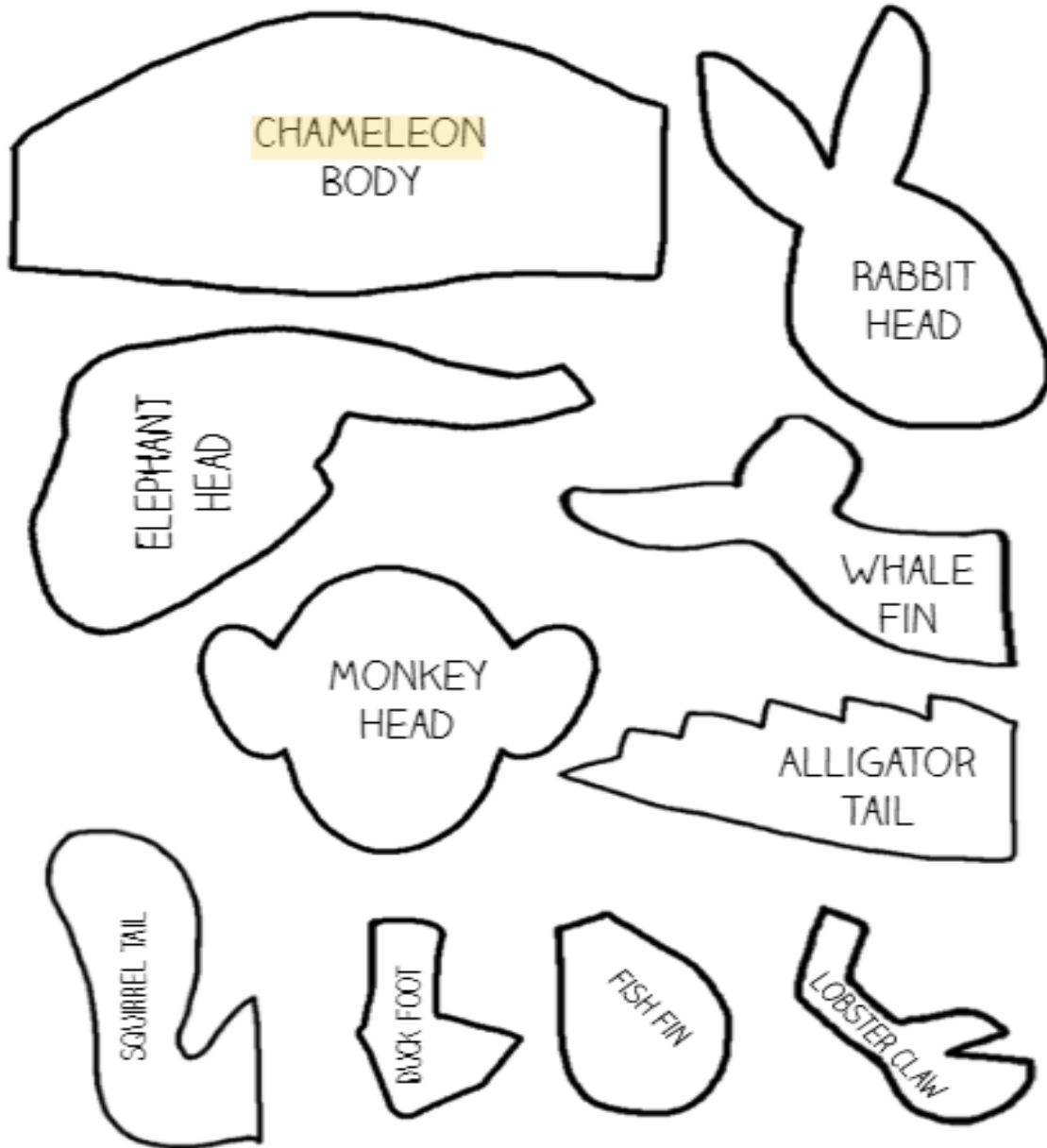
(on land/in water/in air)

It eats _____.

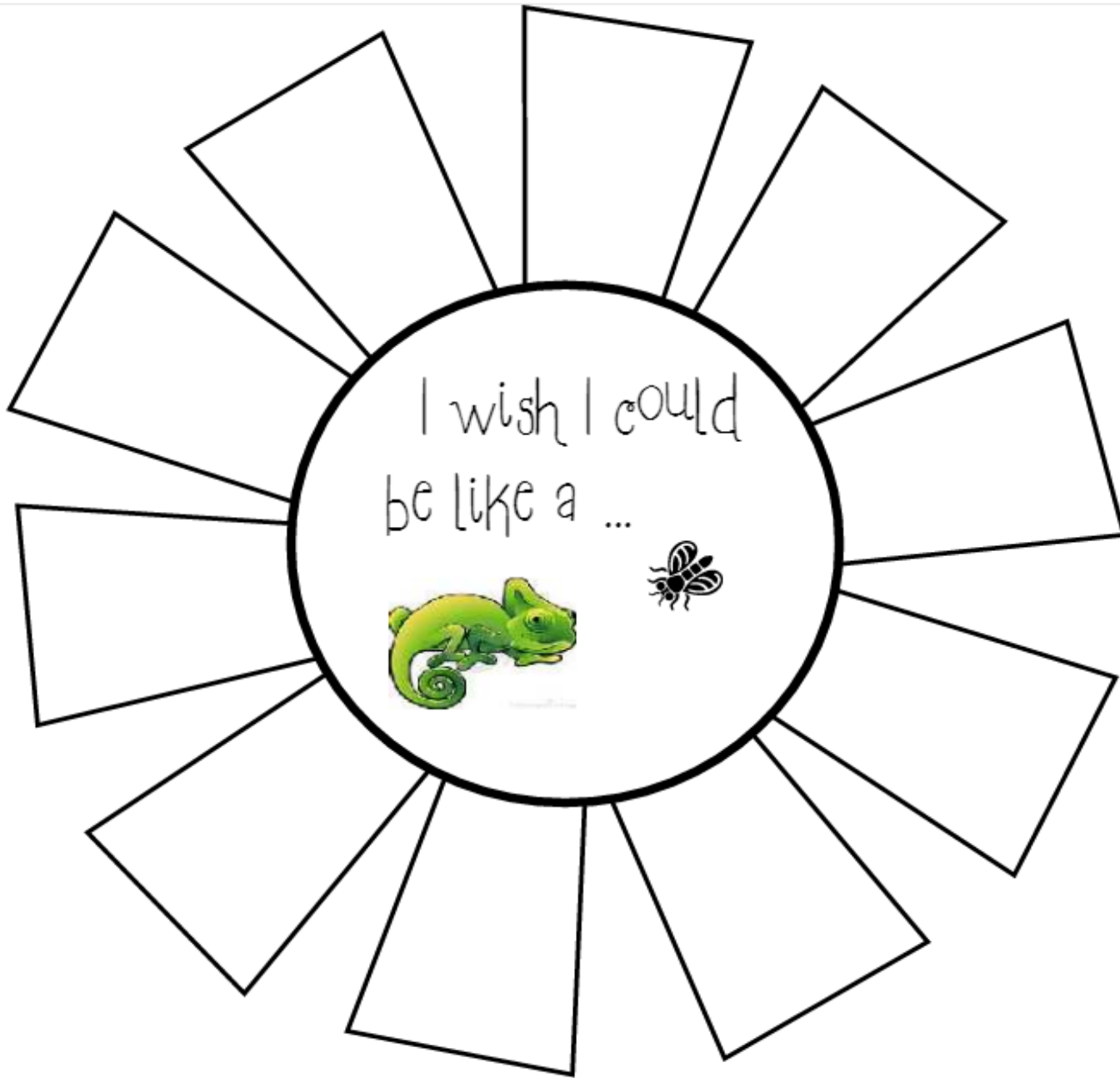
It is good at _____.

It has trouble with _____.

Mix up animal craft activity 2

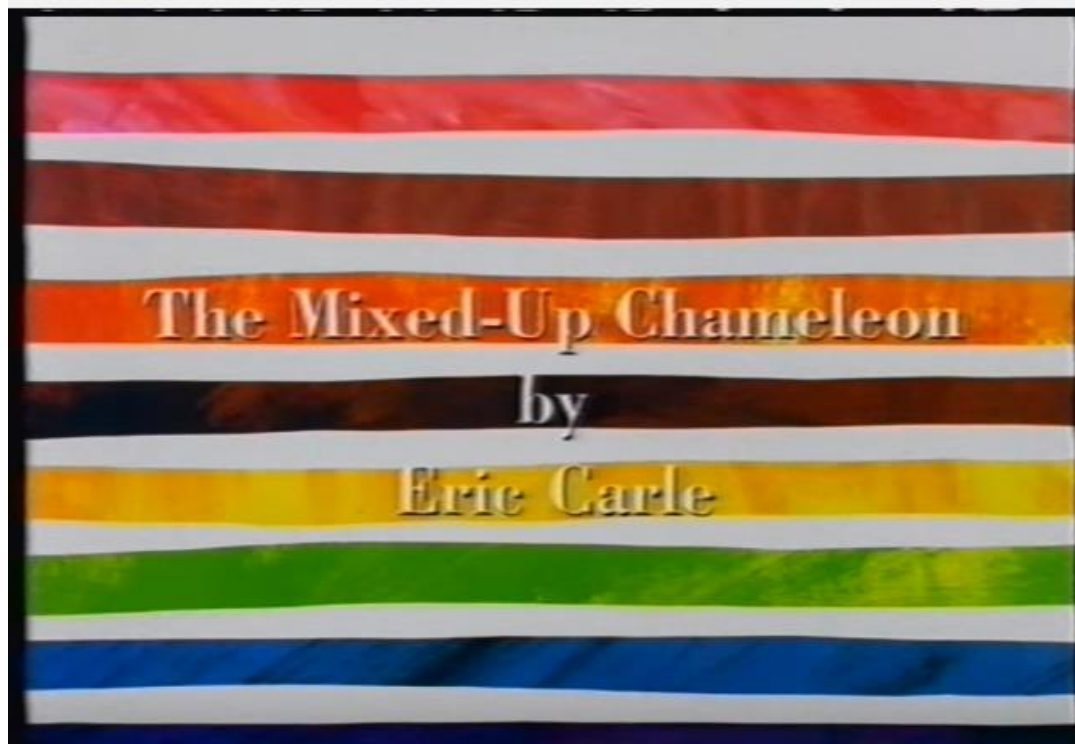


example



Watch the story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEqoJMNU2eo&t=11s>



Put a tune to the chameleon's song!!

Do You Have Green Skin?

Do you have green skin?

Can you shed the skin you're in?

Can you change the colour, too?

Turn from green to red to blue?

Do you live among the trees?

Blending in with sticks and leaves?

Do you have green skin?