MADE WITH LITTLE STORYBOOK

Pip's Surprise Stripes

Visual lesson



Surprise Stripes!

Theo pressed his nose to the glass at Grandpa's house, where Pip the chameleon sat green as a leaf, still as a stone. Theo waved hello — and Pip's skin bloomed with bright orange stripes! "Grandpa, how did Pip change colors so fast?"





Tiny Stretchy Color Cells

Grandpa held up his magnifying glass. "Pip's skin is made of cells — tiny living dots, too small to see — and some hold color like tiny stretchy blobs." When a blob stretches flat and wide you see lots of its color, and when it squishes into a tiny ball the color almost hides!

> **TALK ABOUT IT**
> Find the color cell that is hiding its color!

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Feelings Pick the Colors

"Pip's color cells listen to Pip's feelings," said Grandpa. When Pip feels calm, the green cells stretch wide and the orange cells squeeze small and hide. When Pip feels excited, the orange cells stretch wide and the green cells squeeze small!

TALK ABOUT IT

Pip feels excited! Which cells stretch wide?





The Red Blanket Test

Just then, Grandpa set Pip down on a soft red blanket. Theo leaned in close, holding his breath. Would Pip turn red to match the blanket?

TALK ABOUT IT

What is your guess — what will Pip do?

Inside, Not Outside!

No! Pip stayed calm, quiet green, right there on the red blanket — the color comes from inside, not outside! Quiet green does help Pip hide in leaves — that's called camouflage, hiding by blending in — but Pip's feelings pick the colors, not the blanket.

TALK ABOUT IT

Why is Pip still green?





Theo's Mirror Experiment

Grandpa shared one last wow: a chameleon can point each eye a different way at the same time — one looks up while the other looks behind! That night, Theo tried a Pip experiment at the mirror with Dad: happy face, grumpy face, surprised face — his face changed with his feelings, just like Pip's skin. Say it with Theo: "The color comes from inside, not outside!"

Check your wonder

1 **What do Pip's color cells do to show a color?**

- A. Stretch wide and flat
- B. Squeeze into a tiny ball
- C. Paint on new color from outside

2 **What tells Pip's color cells which color to show?**

- A. Pip's feelings
- B. The color of the blanket
- C. The sunlight in the room

3 **Where does Pip's color come from?**

- A. From inside
- B. From outside

ANSWERS 1-A 2-A 3-A

1. Yes! Stretch wide to show, squeeze small to hide — just like Theo's stretchy toy! 2. That's it! Calm Pip is green, excited Pip is orange — feelings pick the colors! 3. Say it with Theo: the color comes from inside, not outside!

THE END

Visual lesson

Put your child in this story

Free to try. Scan the code or visit

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