



(Thanks Henry D for the drawings!)

GREAT LAKES ALMANAC

AUGUST RESPONSES AT GREAT LAKES AQUARIUM

(August 20 and 22, 2022 plus summer camp)

SURVEY QUESTIONS

- *Camouflage, poison, armor, copying (mimicry), smell - these are some of the "superhero" traits animals use to survive in nature. Which trick would you use and why?*
- *Describe how and when you would reveal your superhero trait?*

RESPONSES

Camouflage - I can blend in. I'm not revealing my secrets.

- Melany R, Bemidji, MN, age 42

I would use "invisibility" to survive. Copying (mimicry) would be a great way to survive, too. But "invisibility" would be easier...maybe? Resting time, because I don't want any creatures to bother my peaceful free quiet time! - Eun Joo C, Duluth, MN

As a bird of prey. I would stretch out my wings and ride the high pressure pockets to soar high in to the sky. Then using my awesome eyesight, look down and see all of what is happening on the surface below. - *Scott K, Wetmore, MI, age 33*

Strong nose in search of prey (chocolate). Keen sense of smell like dogs. - *Brooklyn H, Wautoma, WI, age 10*

Armor! So I can defend myself like a turtle. I'd put armor on my back, something lightweight that doesn't slow you down. It would be light, I'd be able to take it on and off and I'd just wear it when there is danger. It would be metal in the middle, with some stones on it like agates. - *Asher, Mounds View, MN, age 9*

Camouflage because if you're playing hide and seek, you'd rule the game. I would just reveal it sometimes; I'd blend in in the city. - *Jarrett N, Zimmerman, MN, age 10*

Camouflage (as a defense mechanism). I'd have a pattern that blends in with the background as protection for my kids in dangerous situations. - *Kersty M, Fargo, ND, age 26*

Camouflage and poison. Camouflage would help keep you safe from predators. Poison so if a predator ate you, they'd spit you back out. Bad taste and sneaky skin color/pattern. - *Faye M, White Bear Lake, MN, age 7*

Poison: I would shoot poison from my mouth and it would sting and scare away other animals. Glow: I would start to glow as a warning. - *Henry D, Duluth, MN, age 6*

Camouflage because predators wouldn't really see me unless they dig into the thing I'm hiding in. When people thought I could camouflage myself then I would show my superhero trait. - *Anonymous*

Camouflage, to keep yourself safe as well as help with hunting. Pattern that blends in with background and I wouldn't because its a super power for a reason - *Cassandra P, Bessemer, MI, age 32*

Camouflage then I could blend in and I wouldn't be eaten as easily. I want to blend in with trees and leaves. I would be like a tree frog. - *Lydia R, Duluth, MN, age 8*

Mimicry just because it is cool and I get to copy and I like to copy (we're the copy cats); Camouflage because I like to blend in. I would do it if there was a predator around; I would do it because a guy is trying to hung me down. - *Joshua and Alexander W, Duluth, MN, ages 8 & 6*

Camouflage - hiding and being able to find something in the wild is so cool and fun when spotted (like Magic Eye 3D!) A pattern that blends in - its like a holography you stare at it until it reveals itself. - *Annie S, Saint Paul, MN*

Stink and slimy so I don't get eaten. When another animal tries to eat me!- *Jackson VH, age 9*

I feel like armor would be cool. Like if we drop off a tree, we'd be okay. Also poison to protect yourself. All the time, if getting attacked. When I am moving and out hunting I would dig a hole to get away. - *Kierra S, Cameron, WI, age 15*

Camouflage cause they can't see me. Unpleasant texture. - *Joseph V, Hillman, MN, age 8*

I would be a red panda because they can climb trees and hide away. They are red and could blend in. When there's a predator coming and I need to keep from getting eaten. Or use it to hide and then attack my prey. - Alec S, Cameron, WI, age 8

Copying/camouflage to blend in with the scenery. - Autumn P, Virginia, MN, age 8

Invisibility so I can blend in or not be seen. The idea of a pattern that blends with the background plays well with being invisible. - Norah O, Shakopee, MN, age 6

Camouflage because it's easier to hide and takes less energy. Shift to fit in with the background when going place to place, to avoid being caught.- Katana, Rochester, MN, age 12

Poison - to defend myself; Strength - to kick with my back legs. I would reveal my superhero trait by opening my mouth - tongue and teeth; by kicking and punching when they attack me. - Parker and Piper R, Mahtowa, MN, age 7 & 5

Fast, go from country to country. Color (yellow, blue and very fast red) all together. - Katie B, Duluth, MN, age 52

Mimicry - I like to copy my sister; Armor - like a moose, like the big paddles (antlers). Danger; to get food - Madelyn and Elizabeth B, Eden Prairie, ages 5

Camouflage so predators can't see me. When an animal is chasing me. - Rauri M, Fargo, ND, age 8

Mimicry: I would copy the actions of anyone I was around, even if it was hard. I would do it every time. - Fuchsia H, Duluth, MN

Copying. If I were to look like and act like another animal, I would have a better chance of survival - probably. I would wait until a predator is around to look like another animal that it does not eat. - *Annika, Duluth, MN, age 8 1/2*

I would have the power of echolocation so that I could "see" in the dark. I wouldn't reveal it until the last minute! And then I would have bright, shining eyes that revealed where I was! - *Emma P, Duluth, MN, age 30*

I would use camouflage, poison and armor. First I would use poison. If this didn't work, I would use armor. Finally if they don't work, I would use camouflage against the predator. When there are predators. My camouflage can change when I'm in different surroundings such as sand or rocks. My armor would be spikes that can come in and out. If a predator snuck up behind me, my really strong shell keeps predators from getting in. I would use camouflage and poison to sneak up and stun prey. - *Annika O, Duluth, MN, age 8*