

Skin: NC Summer Tour Lesson Plans

Skin Prints

Objectives: Campers will:

Define **epidermis**

Learn how to make a **skin** print

Explore the different types of prints on their **skin**

Materials Needed:

1 large white sheet of construction paper per camper

1 piece of computer paper per camper

1 lead pencil per camper

1 tape dispenser per camper

electric pencil sharpener

baby wipes

Instructions:

1. (5 minutes) Ask campers if anyone know what the outer layer of skin is called. (*Answer: epidermis*) Tell campers that the outer layer of skin is the **epidermis**. The **epidermis** is the most outside part of the body and sits on top of a layer of fat all over your body. The **epidermis** is not smooth all over your body. Ask campers to name places where the **epidermis** is not smooth (*answers may include the fingers, knees, joints, eyes, etc.*) Explain to campers that no two people, not even identical twins, have the same wrinkles, or prints on their **epidermis**. Ask campers what the most well known type of **epidermal** wrinkle is (*answer: fingerprints*). Tell campers that we are going to make **skin** prints to look at how our **skin** is different from everybody else's.
2. (5 minutes) Have campers sit at their tables. Give each camper one piece of computer paper, one piece of construction paper, one pencil and one tape dispenser. Explain to campers that we will use the lead from the pencils to make our prints visible. Have each camper color a spot on their computer paper about the size of two quarters. Tell campers to rub the pencil over the area hard until a very dark blob appears. Have each camper pull off a piece of tape and put it on the edge of the table for a minute. Have the campers each rub one finger through the blob to pick up as much lead as they can. Then have each camper pick up the piece of tape from the table and press the tape to the lead finger. When the tape is pulled off campers will have a fingerprint that they can then put on their construction paper. Have each camper label what finger the print came from and have them compare prints with others at their tables. Are the patterns different? Are they the same?
3. (5 minutes) Let campers repeat this process as many times as they would like for five minutes. Challenge campers to find different areas of **skin** to make prints of. Are any parts of their **skin** smooth? Are any parts more wrinkled than others? When campers are finished have them wipe the lead off with the baby wipes.

PLEASE MAKE A SHORT POWERPOINT ON DIFFERENT CHARACTERISTICS THAT DIFFERENTIATE PEOPLE, HIGHLIGHTING THE FINGERPRINT.