

PBS
KIDS

WRITERS CONTEST

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SECOND GRADE: 2nd Place

"How Chameleon Got His Color Changing Skin"

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Have you ever wondered how chameleon got its color-changing skin?

Long ago, when Sabertoothed Tigers trailed the earth, there was a chameleon. A very clever chameleon. There was also a hummingbird, but this hummingbird was very fast. But the other animals often wondered which one was better, being clever or being fast. So, one day they said, let's have a challenge.

"We'll play hide and seek," said Monkey. Hummingbird laughed, "There's no way I'll lose! Look how fast my wings go! How about you try to even fly with your little hands, chameleon."

"I'd rather not," Chameleon replied. "You can't get up in the places I can as fast! I'll be hiding in my grand hiding spot while you'll be scattering on the ground. Say, why don't we have a prize in this game of hide & seek?" asked Hummingbird.

"Ooh! How about the winner of this round gets color-changing skin?" asked Monkey.

So, soon enough the animals all gathered around in a circle. Hummingbird was preparing her wings, zooming back and forth, showing off to the audience. Finally, Monkey shouted, "Ready, set, go!" and started counting. "1,2,3." Chameleon heard. He scattered up a tree and up on a leaf. Meanwhile, Hummingbird was zooming to her favorite place, the flowers. "He'll never find me deep in the flowers." "9,10. Ready or not here I come!! Hmmm... where could they be? Well, Hummingbird loves flowers." Monkey swung right past Chameleon! He looked deep in the flowers and shouted, "Found You!" Hummingbird asked confused, "Did I win?" "Chameleon won the challenge!" Chameleon came out of his hiding spot. "I proved you wrong!" "I am sorry," said Hummingbird. "I was being a show-off." Chameleon said, "It's okay."

And that's how Chameleon got his color-changing skin.

You might be wondering how Chameleon won without color-changing skin. The truth is, he hid in the leaf that was his true color—green. Clever, huh? Now, that's how Chameleon got his color-changing skin.

