



## Peppered moth scenario (DM1)

### Materials

- A4 sheet of white paper
- Newspaper page
- Tweezers
- Stopwatch
- 30 newspaper circles (made with hole punch)
- 30 white circles (made with hole punch)

1. Put a sheet of white paper on the table.
2. One person should spread 30 white circles and 30 newspaper circles over the surface while the other person isn't looking.
3. How many circles can the other person pick up 15 seconds with tweezers.
4. Record how many white circles and how many newspaper circles were collected.
5. Repeat with a newspaper page on the table.
6. Describe your findings.

Colour can affect an organism's ability to survive. Usually when an individual is camouflaged in its environment it is less likely to be located by a predator.

Before the industrial revolution, the trunks of the trees in the forest around Manchester were light grayish-green due to the presence of lichens. Most of the peppered moths in the area were light colored with dark spots. As the industrial revolution progressed, the tree trunks became covered with soot and turned dark. Over a period of 45 years, the dark variety of the peppered moth became more common.

Explain why diversity in the colour and pattern of moths was beneficial in this case