Scorpion Scene

Scorpions fluoresce, or glow, a blue-green color when illuminated by ultraviolet (UV) light or by moonlight. Scientists are not sure exactly why scorpions are fluorescent, but it could be a warning sign to potential predators—or it could be a lure for prey. Color a scorpion and watch their transformation by creating a daytime and a nighttime agamograph scene—a unique art piece where the picture seems to change depending on the angle you use to view it. What kind of habitat will your scorpion live in during the day, and what will change at night?

Materials

- Print-out agamograph templates (page 3)
- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers
- Highlighters
- Scissors
- Glue stick

Directions

1. Print the agamograph templates on page 3.

2. Color in the “daytime” scorpion template with crayons, colored pencils, or markers and draw a background for the scorpion. Will your scorpion be in the desert or in the jungle? Will the sun be shining, or will your scorpion be hiding in a cave? Use your imagination!

3. Color in the “nighttime” scorpion template using
highlighters to mimic the way scorpions fluoresce at night. Then use crayons, colored pencils, or markers to add a background. Is your scorpion exploring under the moonlight?

4. Cut out the daytime template, nighttime template, and base template along the dark black border lines.

5. Cut the daytime template into strips, following the dotted lines. Glue these strips to the corresponding letters on the base template (A on A).

6. Cut the nighttime template into strips, following the dotted lines. Glue these strips to the corresponding numbers on the base template (1 on 1).

7. Fold the agamograph in an accordion shape.

8. Your scorpion scene is complete. Place your agamograph at eye level and slowly move from one side to the other and watch your scorpion go from day to night!