



Natural Selection Activity for Kids

Natural Selection Model DIY

 Duration: **20 min**

 Difficulty: **Easy**

 Cost: **\$0 to \$5**

Learn how to model natural selection!

Material List

- 1 Stopwatch
- 1 Green piece of paper
- 1 Pair of sunglasses
- 1 Piece of bubble wrap
- 1 Pair of tongs
- 1 Variety of colorful items, like paperclips

Instructions

- 1 Scatter the colorful items on the green paper.
- 2 Fold the bubble wrap around the sunglasses and put them on.
- 3 Start your stopwatch timer and collect as many colorful pieces with the tongs as you can see, one at a time.
- 4 Stop after 20 seconds.
- 5 Observe which colors you collected and which ones you missed.
- 6 Try it with a different color of paper.

How It Works

Most of the green paper clips remained because they have a trait that helped them survive in the environment. Green paper clips are harder to notice on green paper so they got picked up less often. If you did this with yellow paper, most of the yellow clips would be left. That is natural selection at work! Over many generations, it can cause major changes in living things.

