

THINGS ARE NOT ALWAYS AS THEY SEEM

ABOUT:

When Winston was just a pup, we took him camping. It was during Autumn and the air was crisp. We enjoyed watching Win because to him everything was new and fascinating. One afternoon while we sat around a fire, a turtle lumbered its way into camp. When it spied Winston, it retreated into its shell. But too late. Winston saw it moving. He sniffed, whined, and pawed it trying to figure out what manner of strange creature it could be. When the turtle decided to make a break for it, Winston jumped back and looked at us as if to say, "Did you see that?"

PURPOSE:

As I thought about Winston and the turtle, I felt it was a perfect example of how things may look one way, but in reality, are something entirely different. Children are like Winston. Everything is new, especially in the realm of emotions. Their personalities are forming, and each child reacts or responds in a different way. Therefore, it is important for children to feel safe when they explore new places, relationships, and ideas.

SUGGESTIONS:

Be ready with a few examples of when you misunderstood a person or a situation. Humor is always good, so maybe share with them something funny.

IDEAS:

- Go turtle hunting if the season is right
- Learn about turtles and their habits
- Research bugs that camouflage with nature. For example, walking sticks, leafhoppers, and dead leaf butterflies.
- Investigate animals, amphibians, and fish that camouflage with their surroundings.
- Have younger children act out camouflage such as standing like a tree, blooming like a flower, huddling like a rock.

Did you come up with other ideas? Grrreat! Let us know and we will add your ideas to the site!