

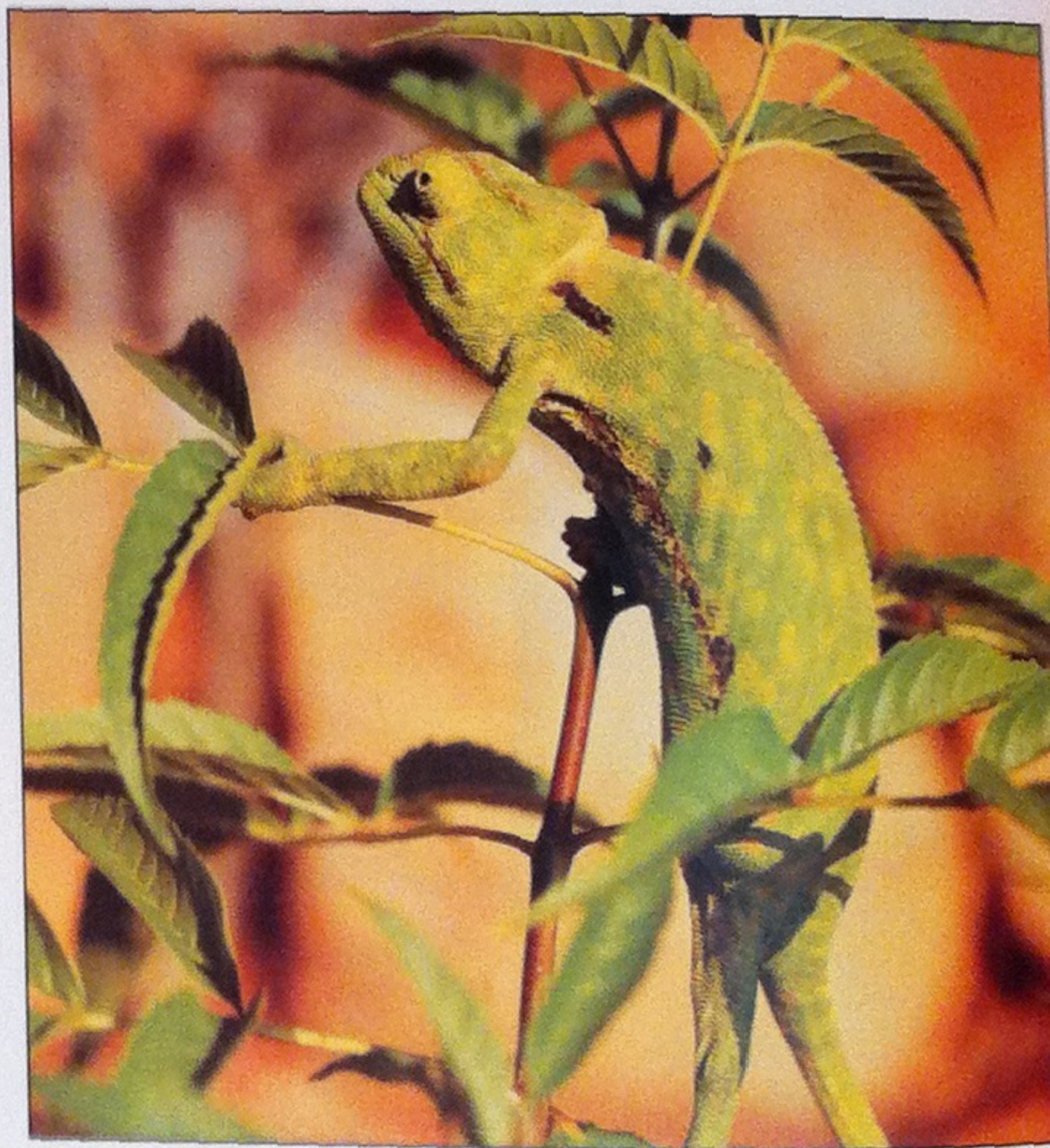
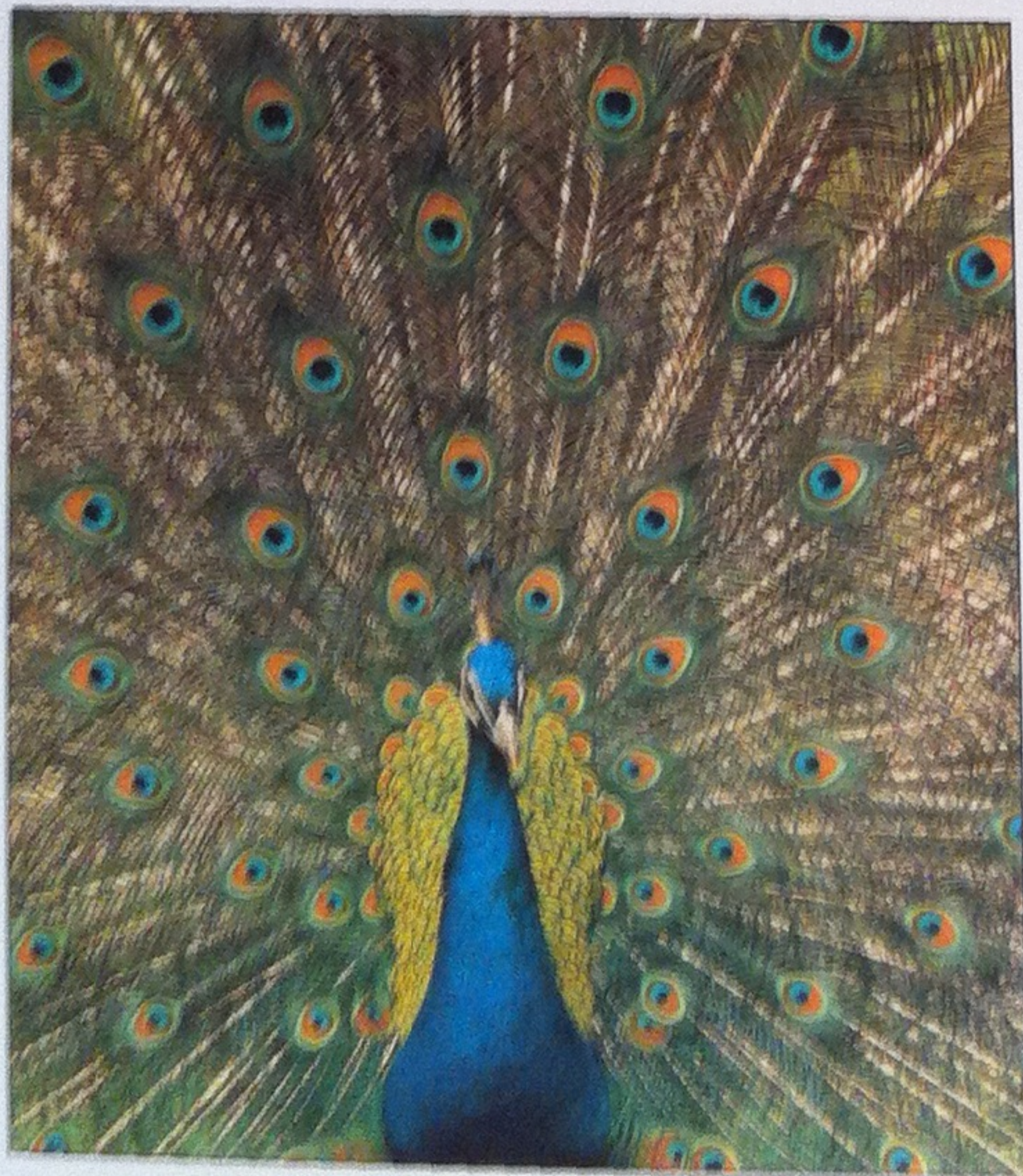
THE COLORS OF THE RAINBOW



Imagine a whole world without color. We would see gray skies, gray grass, and gray flowers. Many animals and plants would not survive, because different colors send important signals to them.

Colors make flowers stand out, so that insects will eat the nectar inside the flowers and spread pollen that makes new flowers grow.

▼ Many animals and birds, like this beautiful peacock, use bright colors to attract a mate.



▲ Other animals use colors to hide from their enemies. Chameleons can change the color of their skin to blend in with the plants or rocks around them.

Rainbow colors

red	
orange	
yellow	
green	
blue	
indigo	
violet	



▲ Sunlight is made up of many colors. Usually, the colors combine and look white. But if the Sun is shining and it is raining at the same time, the raindrops split the light into different colors. Then you can see a huge band of color called a **rainbow**.

◀ You can make your own rainbow on a sunny day. Put your finger over the end of a garden hose to make a very fine spray. If you stand with the Sun behind you, you can see all the colors of the rainbow in the water.

Grass looks green because it reflects green light. It soaks in all the other colors. An apple looks red because it reflects red light. On a sunny day, black things get hot because they soak in all the Sun's light. White things stay cooler because white reflects all colors.

