

Buggin' the Bugs!



Entomology is the study of insects. Insects are animals that have skeletons on the outside of their bodies, three segments (head, thorax, and abdomen), three pairs of legs, and antennae. Insects are fascinating creatures. From the bombardier beetle that releases burning hot stinky liquid to a dragonfly that has the ability to see in all directions.

Objective: Explore the smaller things in life. Learn why insects are so important to our lives, even though they can really "bug" us!

Project: Entomology- Bingo, Day 23

Ages: 1st-12th Grade

Time: 30 mins- 1 hour

Supplies:

- Magnifying Glass (phone camera with zoom)
- Tweezers
- Pen or pencil
- Paper
- Books, internet, etc. for research
- Clip Board- optional
- Clear jar with lid- optional



Photo From:
<https://za.pinterest.com/pin/431078995558993947/>

Activity Directions:

- Research the list of insects below. Look for their scientific name, what they eat, where they generally live, natural predators, and any defense mechanisms they may use.

Aphid	Desert Stink Bug	Japanese Beetle
Bark Beetle	Dragon Fly	Katydid
Box Elder Bug	Fruit Fly	Ladybug
Brown Marmorated Stink Bug	Grasshopper	Mosquito
Cabbage Worm	House Fly	Praying Mantis

- Once you have researched the list, choose five of the insects on the list that you think you can find.
- Using your magnifying glass or camera zoom, try to find each of the five insects.
- Record their location, color variations, and anything else you find interesting about them.
- Variation- Using the jar with a lid, capture the insect so you can examine it closer in the jar.

Facilitation Questions:

- When researching the list, what did you notice about the common name of the insect?
- Could you clearly see each of the segments of the body clearly?
- How might insects help us deal with problems like weeds and insect infestations?
- What careers might utilize the identification of insects and an understanding of their habits?
- What other insects can you find and identify that are inside or outside of your home?