



Dunwoody Nature Center

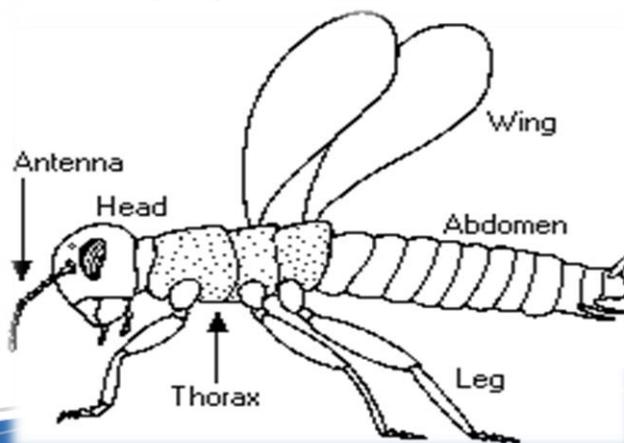
Second Grade Nature Activities

Insectigation Station

What do all insects have in common?

Insects are part of a group of animals called arthropods – which also includes spiders and crustaceans. Insects have some characteristics that make them unique to other animals. All insects have:

- 3 segmented body parts: head, thorax, abdomen
- 6 jointed legs
- Exoskeleton (hard exterior body covering)
- 2 sets of wings
- Compound eyes (eyes with many lenses in each)
- Antennae (sensory organ)



Sing-A-Long Insect Parts

Sing to the tune of
“*Head, Shoulders, Knees
& Toes*”

“*Head and Thorax,
Abdomen (Abdomen)
Head and Thorax,
Abdomen (Abdomen)
Six Legs, and 4 wings and
an exoskeleton
Head and Thorax,
Abdomen (Abdomen)*”



Insect Hike & Scavenger Hunt



Head outside for an “insectigation”! Follow an ant trail; watch for dragonflies, ladybugs, butterflies or any other insects you can see. Take notes or draw pictures of the insects that you find. Use a field guide or online research to try to identify the insects you find and determine if each is a pest or beneficial to humans. Challenge yourself to find all the bugs on the scavenger hunt linked below. Can you tell which ones are insects and which ones are not? Remember to check for all the body parts!

<https://live laugh rowe.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Bug-Scavenger-Hunt-for-Kids.-Free-Printable-from-Live-Laugh-Rowe.pdf>



Metamorphosis is Magic!

Insects have unique life cycles! They go through a big transformation as they grow from larva to adult, known as metamorphosis.

Watch this video to learn more about the lifecycle of a butterfly:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V5RSpMQOOpw>

Pollination

Act like a pollinator using Cheetos in a pollination simulation game! Click here: <https://i0.wp.com/littlekinderwarriors.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Capture.jpg>



Did you know? Many insects are important pollinators! One-third of the food we eat is pollinated by insects. Click here for a list of all the foods pollinated by insects and other animals.

<https://www.pollinator.org/list-of-pollinated-food>

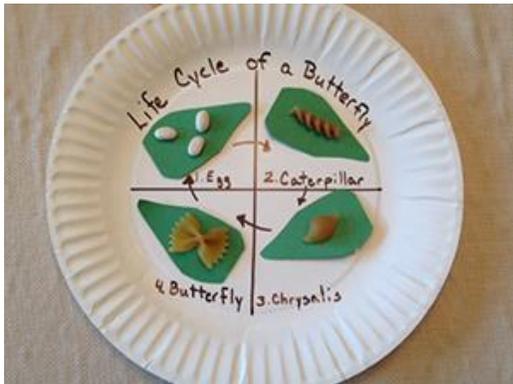
How many have you eaten today?



Feeling Crafty

Here are some fun crafts for you to do!

Butterfly Life Cycle Pasta Craft:



<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/butterfly-life-cycle-plate-craft/>

Create A Critter:



Test your knowledge by creating your own insect! Use whatever craft materials you have to make your very own insect – real or imagined. Be sure to include all the necessary parts to make it a true insect – 6 legs, 3 body segments, compound eyes, etc. Give it a name and tell a family member all about it!