

INSECT SAFARI

LEARN ABOUT INSECTS, THEIR BODY PARTS AND THEIR HABITATS: COLLECT, OBSERVE, DOCUMENT, RELEASE

First Grade NGSS DCI Addressed:

[LS1.A](#) Structure and Function

- [1-LS1-1](#)

[LS1.D](#) Information Processing

- [1-LS1-1](#)

[LS3.A](#) Inheritance of Traits

[LS3.B](#) Variation of Traits

- [1-LS3-1](#)

Pre-Trip Information/Activities

- [Inspect an Insect Video](#)
- [25 Cool Things About Bugs](#)
- [Insect Fact Sheet](#)
- [Interactive Insect Games](#)

Materials:

- Insect nets
- Bug boxes
- Various books and charts identifying insects
- Insect Safari worksheet

Objectives:

- Methods for catching insects
- Various species of local insects
- Importance of insects in the food chain
- Identify characteristics of each insects habitat

Introduction:

- What is an insect?
- How many legs do insects have? (six legs),
- How many wings?(two or four wings)
- How many feelers or antennae do insects have on the top of their head?(two)
- How many bones do insects have? (Insects have no bones inside their bodies, but instead have a tough skin on the outside to protect them, and an even tougher shell on the inside that is like armor called an EXOSKELETON)

- How do insects breathe?(Insects breathe through small tubes on the bottoms of their bellies)
- How many eyes? (Most have two large eyes with limited seeing potential.)
- Insects eat just about everything organic, from people's food at picnics to other insects. Dragonflies, for example, are carnivores - they love mosquitos - while termites eat rotting wood. (FOOD CHAIN)
- Insects have no teeth, and instead chew with their mouths. Crickets, beetles, and some other insects do have sharp jaws for tearing and chewing food (ADAPTATION).

Activity:

- 1) Pass out the materials
- 2) Have the students spread out to look for insects.
- 3) Have the students compare and identify findings using charts and books.
- 4) Have students document their findings on their information sheet and list characteristics of the habitat

Discussion:

- Where were the majority of the insects found? Where is an insect's habitat?
- Which insects are beneficial to humans?
- Name some animals that eat insects as part of their daily diet.

Post-Trip Activities:

- Have students use craft supplies to build an insect of their own Have students verbally explain how the different parts of their insect function. Have students create a diorama of the habitat where their insect lives ([K-2-ETS1-2](#), [SEP-2](#)).

Student Name _____

About Your Insect:

Where did you find your insect (Habitat)? _____

What was it doing?(eating, flying, buzzing) _____

What does your insect eat? _____

What color is it? _____

How does it move around? (walk, crawl, fly, climb) _____

What is your insect called? _____

Draw your insect

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the student to draw their insect. The box is positioned below the text 'Draw your insect' and occupies the bottom half of the page.