

Plants Grow Children Curriculum

EVERYDAY INSECTS

Students learn about insects and the important part that they play in our world. Each student gets to construct their own "insect."

Grade Level

5

Objectives

- To learn the characteristics of insects
- learn about the various orders of insects
- To learn how insects affect man
- To learn to participate in classroom question and answer sessions

Vocabulary

Thorax	Antennae
Tarix	Larva
Instar	Pupa
Imago	
Metamorphosis	

Time

45-60 minutes or more

Lead Time Required

1 day to prepare tray of insect specimens.
2 days to prepare "humbug" construction kit (1 kit per student)

Activity Materials

For Each Student

- 1 small sandwich bag
- 1 12" chenille pipe cleaner
- 1 6" chenille pipe cleaner

- 1 pair wiggle eyes
- 1 flat magnet
- 1 pair nylon covered wire wings

For use by instructor

- 1 tube quick drying glue (duco)
- 1 ½" wood dowel, 6" long

Demonstration Materials

- Tray of mounted insects of six main orders
- Poster of pictures of insects
- Poster of what insects eat
- Poster of where insects live
- Poster of the anatomy of an insect
- Several vials of preserved insects for "hands-on" inspection

Teaching Procedure & Discussion

1. Introduce yourself. Tell the class who you are, explain briefly about the WSU Master Gardener program, and why you are in the classroom..

2. Tell the class what an entomologist does.

- a.) Identify and name insects
- b.) Study insect life cycles for use by man
- c.) Study what insects eat
- d.) Study where insects live

3. Explain the classification system of Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus and Specie.

4. Tell the class that all insects have a Latin name for genus and specie. Explain that the Latin name prevents confusion in translation between languages. Explain why some insects have common names.

5. Ask what insects they like the most/least

6. Show the poster of the anatomy of an insect and explain the main characteristics of the head, thorax, and abdomen, the three sets of legs, the antennae, and the wings.

7. Talk about other characteristics such as size, shape, color, pattern and symmetricalism.

8. Talk about the insect anatomy
- a.) Head - mouth types, antennae types and types of eyes
 - b.) Thorax - legs and wings
 - c.) Abdomen - heart, stomach and eggs

9. Tell students that insects are classified into 29 orders. Explain how KEYS are used to classify insects. Hand out "KEY" for the six main orders.

10. Explain metamorphosis - egg, larva, instar, pupa, and adult or imago.

11. Talk about insect habitats - insects live everywhere except Antarctica.

12. Talk about what insects eat - any thing that is digestible.

Action Learning

1. Hand out "Humbug" kit.

2. Demonstrate how to wrap chenille around wood dowel to form insect body.

3. Show how second piece of chenille is added and wrapping is

By WSU Master Gardeners, Benton-Franklin counties and Marianne C. Ophardt, WSU Area Extension Agent, Benton-Franklin counties.

Cooperative Extension programs and policies are consistent with federal and state laws and regulations on nondiscrimination regarding race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, or gender preference. Trade names have been used to simplify information; no endorsement is intended.

completed.

4. Tell students the choices of where and how the wings can be attached. Put glue on one wing and let students insert it into the insect body.

5. Put glue on second wing and have students add it to the insect.

6. Put glue on insect body and have students position the wiggle eyes.

7. Put glue on magnet and have students attach it to the "Humbug" body.

8. Remind students to let glue dry before playing with or moving the "Humbug".

9. Give each student the take-home handout. It briefly explains what the children learned about and tells about WSU Cooperative Extension and its programs.

10. Thank students for their attention, their questions and to give their "Humbug" a Latin name.

Evaluation

- Jot down notes of successes and problems with the class.
- Take a camera with you if it is convenient to take pictures of the students and their activities of looking at the insect display and their "Humbug,"
- Give the teacher the evaluation form at the start of the lesson. Ask him/her to fill it out and return it to you at the end of the class or to mail it to the Extension Office at the address indicated on the evaluation form



By WSU Master Gardeners, Benton-Franklin counties and Marianne C. Ophardt, WSU Area Extension Agent, Benton-Franklin counties.

Cooperative Extension programs and policies are consistent with federal and state laws and regulations on nondiscrimination regarding race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, or gender preference. Trade names have been used to simplify information; no endorsement is intended.