

Icky Sticky, and Small

Time: 35 Minutes

Materials:

- Drawing paper
- Something to write and draw with
- A bug catcher, or old Tupperware with air holes cut into the lid.

Objectives:

- Be able to identify and name the characteristics of insects.
- Talk about adaptations some insects have, and why they live where they do.

Pre- Activity Materials:

- Define what an insect is.

Insects have special characteristics. Insects have a 3-part body that includes a head, thorax, and abdomen, one or two pairs of wings, and a pair of antennae. [Here is a fun song](#) that goes over the special traits of insects and can help you remember these characteristics

- There are also special scientists that study insects, they're called entomologists.

Procedure:

1. After completing the pre-activity materials, get ready to catch some bugs! With your bug catcher in hand go outside into your backyard or a local park and start looking for bugs.
 - a. Note: If you're having a hard time finding bugs look under rocks, dig in the dirt and leaves, look under logs, or in trees! You can almost always find worms in the soil as well.
2. After catching a bug, look and see if it's an insect. Do you see the three body parts of an insect? Some bugs might look like insects at first but aren't in the end. Also look at what features make this bug special, such as camouflage, where it lives, or how big it is.
3. Once you've gone over and discussed the bugs, make sure to release them back to where you found them. Feel free to repeat these steps as many times as you like!

Optional activity to do afterward:

Now that you've gone out and caught bugs, try drawing your favorite bug of the day! Or, draw your very own made up insect, just make sure it has all the characteristics we talked about it. Make sure to add in the habitat that your insect lives in too!