

Insects - 1.5hr

Students will be able to collect and take a close look at various insects in the field. By using their observation skills and a simple key, they will be able to identify which group each insect belongs to. All insects will be released following the program and the importance of insects will be discussed.

Before you go

Inform students that they will be visiting Carpenter Nature Center to learn about the different groups of insects and how to identify them. Remind them that a large portion of the time will be outside so they should dress appropriately.

While you are here

- 0:00-0:30 Introduction—identifying and sorting different living and nonliving parts of nature and discussing the different types of insects and their lifecycles
- 0:30-1:15 Field experience—working in pairs student will collect and identify insects
- 1:15-1:30 Conclusion—the importance of insects

After you leave

Have students draw/design their own unique insect with the basic characteristics, and then adding special features.

Minnesota Standards

Carpenter Nature Center supplements standards by participating in benchmark activities. Listed below are benchmarks that students will participate in but not necessarily master.

Kindergarten:

Code	Benchmark
0.1.1.2.1	Use observations to develop an accurate description of a natural phenomenon and compare ones observations and descriptions with those of others
0.1.2.1.1	Sort objection into tow groups: nature and man-made
0.2.1.1.1	Sort objects in terms of color, size, shape, and texture and communicate reasoning for the sorting system
0.4.1.1.2	Identify the external parts of a variety of plants and animals including humans
0.4.1.1.3	Differentiate between living and nonliving

First Grade:

Code	Benchmark
1.1.1.1.1	When asked “how do you know?” kids support their answers with observations
1.1.1.1.2	Recognize that describing things as accurately as possible is important in science because it enables people to comparer their observations with those of others
1.1.3.2.1	Recognize that tools are used by people, including scientist and engineers, to gather information and solve problems
1.4.1.1.1	Classify animals into many groups, including physical and behavioral characteristics
1.4.3.1.1	Demonstrate an understanding that animals pass through life cycles that have a beginning, development into adult, reproduction, and death



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