

Passports



BUGS! Grade: 6-8

Description of our Tour:

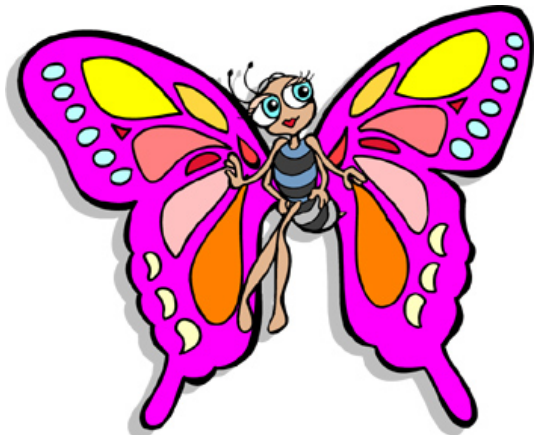
One of our favorite presenters talks about her favorite subject! BUGS! Maria Interlandi treats students to a tour of the world of bugs. Learn about how the insect world works, what bugs eat, how they live and how they work together. A treat for students who get to speak with an Entomologist in their very own classroom. Maria inspires the inquisitive nature in everyone whether talking about leaves or turkeys or sign language. This time lets get Creepy Crawley in a passport about BUGS!!

Information for Trip Leader:

Lesson Outcomes:

The student will be introduced to the following concepts:

- The Characteristics of insects
- The basic body parts of insects
- Activities and resources for teachers and students on insects



Activities:

Activity # 1: Insect Worksheet

This worksheet helps students learn and identify different parts of an insect's body. As the teacher reads the description, the students follow along and try to label the different parts on the insect's body on a diagram. The worksheet is located at the end of this resource guide.

Activity # 2: Creating Insects

Have students create their own insect. They can draw them or mold them out of clay. The insects must have 3 body parts, 6 legs and antennae. Have the students name their insect and describe where they live and what they eat.

Activity # 3: Live Metamorphosis

Order monarch caterpillars for you classroom. You can find them at <http://insectlore.stores.yahoo.net/> Raise the caterpillars in your classroom and watch them change into beautiful butterflies that you can release into nature.

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Activity #4: Bug Food:

Make some fun bug food with your students.



ANTS-ON-A-LOG

Slice stalks of celery, and spread peanut butter in the groove. Sprinkle with black raisins.

Variations: 1) aphids-on-a-log (sunflower seeds), 2) gnats-on-a-log (currents).

ANT TREATS

Use cinnamon twists (glazed donut-like pastries formed into the number eight) as the insect body, stick bendable plastic straws in the sides (three on each side) to be the legs, and they should look like giant ants. Use 'donut holes' for ant eggs.

Challenge Questions:

1. Describe and insect, include the parts of the insect's body?
2. How many legs do insects have? How many legs do spiders have?
3. Describe how a caterpillar become a butterfly or moth?

Responses:

1. Students should mention the basic body parts of an insect (head thorax and abdomen), the legs and antennae.
2. Insects have 6 legs. Spiders have 8 legs
3. Students should describe the process of metamorphosis that caterpillars undergo.

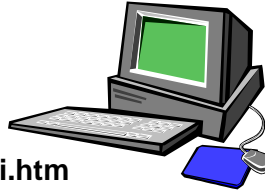
Vocabulary Words:

- Insect - An animal with 3 body parts and 6 legs
- Head - The top part of an insect
- Thorax - The middle part of an insect, where the legs are attached
- Abdomen - The back end parts of an insect
- Antenna - The parts of an insect for feeling, attached to the head
- Compound eyes - The eyes of insects

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- Metamorphosis - The process insects undergo to as they change forms throughout their life cycle
- Exoskeleton - The hard, protective covering insects have

Web Resources:



<http://www.insected.arizona.edu/uli.htm>

This website provides information on how to use live insects in an elementary classroom.

<http://insectlore.stores.yahoo.net/>

This site provides information on how to order monarch caterpillars to raise in the classroom.

<http://www.wacona.com/insects/insects.html>

This site provides activities and lesson plans on insects for elementary students.

<http://www.uky.edu/Ag/Entomology/entfacts/misc/ef006.htm>

Provides information and instruction on how to create a butterfly garden



Suggested Reading:

Totally Bugs: Dennis Schatz and Peter Georgeson

The Munchy Crunchy Bug Book: Ray Nelson, Doug Kelly, Ben Adams and Julie Mohr

Writing Prompts:

- I would describe insects as...
- Insects have a positive impact on people because...

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- Insects have a negative impact on people because...
- My favorite insect is...
- Insects are good for the environment because...
- The reasons you like some insects
- The reasons you don't like some insects

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Insect Worksheet

Directions: Read the following information and then label the diagram of the insect below.

All around us there are tiny animals called insects. Scientists find so many new insects every year that they are amazed!

Insects have 3 main body parts. Those parts are called the head, the thorax (chest area) and the abdomen (the tail end). The head has a pair of feelers or antennae on the front of it. The thorax has 6 legs connected to it for moving and also, a pair of wings for flying. Inside the thorax, there are lots of muscles to help the legs and wings to work.

Insect's wings are very thin so the insect must beat (or flap) their wings very fast so that they can really take off to fly. Insects can twist and turn their wings, which help them to stay in one spot (hover) up in the air or even fly backwards.

Label the parts of the insect

