

Types of Insects:

Materials:

- Downloadable copy of types of Insect (attached below. File name: [Types of Insects.pdf](#))
- Scissor, paper, glue stick, color pencils

Directions:

1. Download and print the types of Insects.
2. Cut the copy into half, along the pink line. The left-hand side half will be the control card for checking, while the right-hand side half will be the working copy.
3. Cut the names of the insects (blue parts) out.
4. Have your child match the names with the pictures and paste them on a piece of paper.
5. Enjoy a nature walk or hike, or explore your back yard. Have your child hunt for those insects. See how many of these insects you can identify.

Purpose:

- Learning about the common types of insects
- Learning to appreciate the beauty in nature

Extensions:

- Matching the shadow of the insects on the downloadable copy. (attached below. File name: [Types of Insects_extension1.pdf](#))
- Color the insects and make beautiful art! (*attached below: file name: [Types of Insects_extension2.pdf](#)*)

Parts of an Insect:



Materials:

- Downloadable copy of [Parts of a Butterfly and control](#) (attached below)
- Art supplies
- Collections from a nature walk (leaves, sticks, acorns etc.)
- Your imagination!

Directions:

1. Download and print the Parts of a Butterfly. Have your child label the parts.
2. Color the different parts in different colors (example, head in brown, antennae in green, wings in red etc.)
3. Enjoy a nature walk or hike, or explore your back yard.
4. Collect leaves of different shapes and sizes, sticks, acorns etc. for the extension below.

Purpose:

- Learning about the parts of an insect
- Learning to appreciate the beauty in nature

Extensions

- On a piece of paper try to create different insects using the different natural materials you have collected from your walk. Try to use a different piece of nature for the different parts of the insect (for example, leaves for the wings, stick for the body, acorn for the head etc.). Examples of artwork from Pinterest are above.

Insect Habitats:



Materials:

- Crayons or color pencils
- Natural materials like twigs, bark, rocks, pinecones
- Either an empty can (both ends open) or plastic bottle
- Rope or twine
- scissors

Directions:

1. Enjoy a walk outdoors. Hunt for insects.
2. When your child finds an insect, take a picture of the insect. Ask him/her to observe where it was found, e.g. on the branch of a tree? a leaf? or a flower?
3. Have your child draw an illustration of the insect (or print the picture if you are able to) and an illustration of the habitat on the back of the picture of the insect. Make a booklet of insects you found.

Purpose:

- Learning about the habitat of insects
- Learning to protect the environment

Extensions:

- Have your child create an insect habitat using twigs, pinecones, and large plastic bottles or cans
 1. Cut the top and bottom portion of a plastic bottle off so that all that is left is the cylinder of the bottle (cut that cylinder in half). Alternatively, use a can with both ends removed.
 2. Stuff the cylinders with twigs and other materials so that you have created lots of nooks and crannies. Stuff them fully so they can't be blown away.
 3. Tie twine or rope around the bottle and hang it where it will stay fairly stable.
 4. You can also secure one on the ground between two supports like bricks to see what different kinds of bugs you will find on the ground.

Life cycle of an insect:

Materials:

- Downloadable copy of the lifecycle of a butterfly attached below (File name: [Butterfly lifecycle](#))
- Scissor, glue stick, color pencils
- For extension: a paper plate, white beans, one rotini pasta, one small shell pasta, one bowtie pasta

Directions:

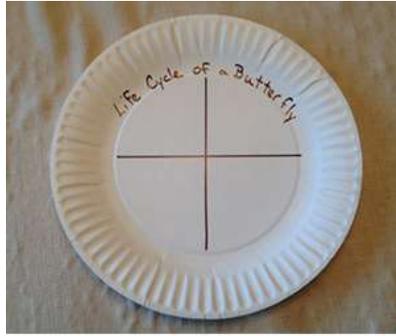
1. Print out the copy of Lifecycle of a Butterfly.
2. If you have the book of the very hungry caterpillar at home, read the book to your child, or let him/her read it. If you don't have it, you may let your child watch or listen to the story via the YouTube link below: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NOK-Sm1YY>
3. Page 1 is the control. Have your child color page 4.
4. Cut and paste the images on page 4 onto page 2.

Purpose:

- Learning about the life cycle of an insect
- Learning to appreciate the beauty in nature

Extensions:

1. Make the "Life Cycle of a Butterfly" with pasta on paper plate.
2. Draw two perpendicular lines across the plate, dividing it into four sections as shown.
3. Collect four leaves from outside, and put them on the four sections on the paper plate.
4. Have your child put a few white beans on the top left leaf (egg), one rotini pasta on the top right leaf (caterpillar), one small shell pasta on the bottom right leaf (chrysalis), and one bowtie pasta on the bottom left leaf (butterfly)



This shows **step 2**



This shows **step 4**

Insects and Their Products:



bee



honey

Materials:

- Document: Insect and their Products (attached below)
- Art supplies and paper

Directions:

1. Print out the “Insects and their Products mixup” sheets.
2. Have your child draw a line connecting each insect to the product that they contribute. (You can keep the Insect and their Products Control handy for double-checking.)
3. Color the insects and products on the black line sheets. Label each insect and product.
4. Create a booklet with these images.

Purpose:

- To learn and understand how insects help humans
- To develop an appreciation of the natural world

Extensions

- Older children can research what part of the world these insects are native to, and the story of how these products were discovered/created.
- Treasure hunt: Take an indoor walk inside your home. Gather or make a list of how many of these products you can find in your own home (for example, red dye, silk, lacquer objects etc.)

Insect Pollinators.... not just bees and butterflies!



Materials:

- Document: [Insect Pollinators](#) (attached below)
- Art supplies

Directions:

1. Print out the Insect Pollinators document.
2. The first two sheets have colored images of the pollinators. Cut along the dashed lines to create cards for each insect.
3. On a separate piece of paper create three columns with the following headings: Bees and Wasps; Butterflies and moths; Ants, Flies and Mosquitos.
4. Sort the insect cards into the appropriate columns and glue them.
5. Color the insects on the black line sheets and make a booklet of insect pollinators.

Purpose:

- To learn and understand how insects help humans
- To develop an appreciation of the natural world

Extensions

- Older children can research these different pollinators and create a book that includes:

Name of the insect

Illustration of the insect

Name of the tree or plant it is responsible for pollinating

Illustration or image of the tree or plant

Does the insect also have another way it helps humans (for example, makes honey, wax etc.)

- Enjoy a nature walk with family and be a nature detective. Look for different pollinator insects. How many of these pollinators did you detect?