

Bug Hunting

Introduction:

Head outside to your favorite neighborhood park, your backyard or the trails of Hoyt Arboretum to put your bug finding skills to the test. You can use spoons to dig in soft ground or flip over logs and stones to look for worms, beetles, ants and spiders. Use the ID sheets below to use if you can match and ID any of your finds.

Suggested Materials for your bug hunt:

- Clear container or jar
- Netting or waxed paper
- Rubber band
- Metal kitchen spoon
- Magnifying glass
- Bug Hunt Field Notes (below)
- Bug Hunt ID Guides (below)

As you hunt for bugs, notice close up how they move, eat, and look. Look for their eyes, mouth, feet, wings, or other body parts. Use the bug and spider ID guide to identify the names of insects. You can put bugs in a clear container or jar and cover with paper. Use a magnifying glass to get a closer look.

Out on your Bug Hunt, you can use the field notes handout to record the bugs you find. Make a quick drawing of what you find and use some descriptive words to record notes. Use your field notes to compare and contrast the different bugs you discover. How are their movements/colorings/body shapes similar or different?



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BUG HUNT

Field Notes

As you see bugs in your neighborhood, backyard or in the Arboretum draw them in the boxes below. Use descriptive words to take notes of bug characteristics. Can you identify and draw the head, thorax and abdomen?

Draw:

Notes:

Draw:

Notes:

Draw:

Notes:

Draw:

Notes:



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Bug ID Sheet



coreid bug
(Coreidae)



plant bug
(Miridae)



bedbug
(Cimicidae)



stinkbug
(Pentatomidae)



lace bug
(Tingidae)



backswimmer
(Notonectidae)



termite bug
(Termitaphididae)



water scorpion
(Nepidae)



water strider
(Gerridae)



toad bug
(Gelastocoridae)



bat bug
(Polyctenidae)

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Spider ID Sheet



BROWN RECLUSE SPIDER



BLACK WIDOW SPIDER



HOBO SPIDER



GRASS SPIDER



FEMALE MOUSE SPIDER



MALE MOUSE SPIDER



BLACK HOUSE SPIDER



WOLF SPIDER



FEMALE TRAP-DOOR



GARDEN ORB-WEAVING



SAINT ANDREW'S CROSS



HUNTSMAN SPIDER



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