

## **ENTOMOLOGY**

Tuesdays, January 27 – April 28 (no class Feb 17, April 7; 12 weeks)

11:15am-12:45pm

Ages 11-14

Dive into the world of entomology as we uncover the incredible diversity, anatomy, and behavior of insects. Students explore adaptations under microscopes, compare life cycles, participate in real citizen science through the Lost Ladybug Project, and investigate how insects interact with ecosystems and people. With dissections, specimen studies, field investigations, and data collection, students gain hands-on experience in scientific observation and insect research. All lab costs are included in registration fee.

Instructor: Jessica Barnes, BSc

Location: STEM Lab- suite 21

Course fee: \$275 or \$25/lab

10% sibling discount

Register for full semester or individual labs

### **LAB SCHEDULE:**

#### **DIVERSITY OF INSECTS - Tuesday, January 27**

Students learn about different groups of insects and their characteristics (beetles versus butterflies, for example), then go on an insect scavenger hunt to see which groups we can find.

#### **INSECT ANATOMY - Tuesday, February 3**

This week, we learn insect body parts, and how they help insects survive in their habitats. We dissect a grasshopper to investigate its external and internal anatomy.

#### **INSECT ADAPTATIONS - Tuesday, February 10**

Students study feeding and flying adaptations of insects as we use microscopes to investigate the mouthparts of mosquitoes and wings of butterflies.

#### **LOST LADYBUG PROJECT - Tuesday, February 24**

Learn about scientific observations, data collection, and citizen science as we investigate ladybugs, make observations, and collect data about ladybugs for the Lost Ladybug Project.

#### **NOT AN INSECT! - Tuesday, Tuesday, March 3**

Not all bugs are insects! We investigate other creatures we think of as bugs to see what makes them different from true insects.

#### **BUG HOMES - Tuesday, March 10**

Kids explore bug homes as we dissect a log to determine who lives inside, look for evidence of bugs that lived there, and learn about creatures that decompose wood.

#### **INSECTS AND PEOPLE - Tuesday, March 17**

Students learn about the different ways people and insects interact, how to identify the bugs around our homes and yards, and how some bugs can thrive in human spaces.

**LIFE CYCLES** - Tuesday, March 24

Students compare and contrast the life cycles of different insects, learn developmental stages (and how some terrestrial insects have aquatic larvae!), and investigate our fruit fly cultures.

**SOCIAL INSECTS** - Tuesday, March 31

We study the behavior of social insects, including the structure of honeybee colonies and behaviors that help the hive survive and thrive.

**POLLINATORS** - Tuesday, April 14

Students study the importance of insects in the pollination of flowers, how insects see flower petals differently than we do, investigate pollen under a microscope, and simulate the pollination process.

**INSECT HOST PLANTS** - Tuesday, April 21

This week we study how many insects rely on specific host plants during certain stages of their lives for food, habitat, or to lay their eggs.

**BUTTERFLY MIGRATION** - Tuesday, April 28

Kids learn about the migration of monarch butterflies, how scientists track where they go each year, and how we can help monarch populations that fly through our area.

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