



University of Kentucky Entomology  
Insects in the Classroom Lesson Plan No. 102

# Choose an Insect

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## *Activity Description*

Library or Internet Research

Age Group: Can be adapted for elementary through high school.

## *Objectives*

- ⌘ Students will use books, encyclopedias, magazines, and the Internet to discover certain facts about an insect of their choice.
- ⌘ Students will write a short report addressing important facts about particular insects' lifestyle.
- ⌘ Students will present their findings to the class.

## *Academic Expectations*

The above objectives fall under the *KERA* Science Expectations, or at least in part.

- ⌘ 2.2 Identify, analyze, and use patterns such as cycles and trends to understand past and present events and predict possible future events.
- ⌘ 2.3 Identify and analyze systems and the ways their components work together or affect each other.
- ⌘ 2.4 Use the concept of scale and scientific models to explain the organization and functioning of living and nonliving things and predict other characteristics that might be observed.
- ⌘ 2.5 Understand that under certain conditions nature tends to remain the same or move toward a balance.
- ⌘ 2.6 Understand how living and nonliving things change over time and the factors that influence the changes.

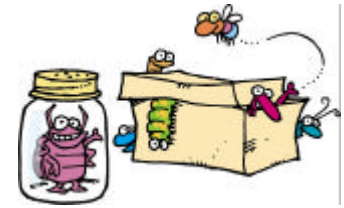
## *Choose an Insect*

By doing research on a certain insect, students can understand a little more about classification, food chains, interactions between organisms in their environment, characteristics of organisms, lifecycles of organisms, structure and function in living systems, to name a few. The use of the Internet and CD-Rom software reinforces their use of technology. Writing and presenting their findings gives students practice in these other important skills.

(Student Handout)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## CHOOSE AN INSECT



### **Introduction:**

Define and describe the characteristics of an insect.  
What is the name of the insect you have chosen?  
Why did you choose this critter?

10 points

### **Body**

What does your critter look like?  
Where is it found (habitat)?  
What does it eat or who eats it? (Niche)  
What kind of lifestyle or lifecycle does it have?  
What are the mating habits? How many generations are there a year?  
How long do they survive?  
Why is it important to life on earth?  
Is it a pest or beneficial?

30 points

### **Conclusion**

What are this critter's prospects, is it endangered?  
How do humans affect this organism?  
What was the most interesting fact or facts you learned about your insect?

10 points

### **Visual Aid**

A poster with pictures, descriptions of where and how it lives are some ideas for a visual aid.

25 points

### **Some Internet addresses**

<http://www.uky.edu/Agriculture/Entomology/enthp.htm>

<http://arnica.csustan.edu/site.asp>

<http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/Entomology/ent.html>

<http://entweb.clemson.edu/>

<http://www.monarchwatch.org/>

### **Choose an Insect (Some Suggestions)**

Honey bee

Monarch

Painted lady

Grasshopper

Cricket

Flea

Ladybug

Bean beetle

Praying mantid

Walking stick

Cockroach

Termite

Katydid

Rhinoceros beetle

Dung beetle

Ants

Wasp

Horn worms

Gypsy moth

Silk worms

Stink bug

Dragonfly

House fly

Hummingbird moth