



Insects Week

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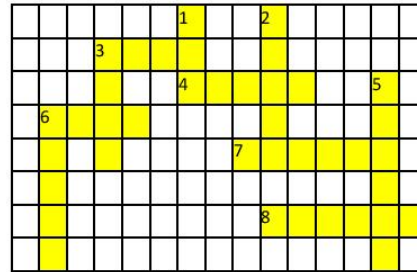


10 Ways to teach your child how to have a Voice

From the moment children are born, they make it clear they have a voice and wish to use it. And the best place for them to find and develop that voice is, you guessed it, at home. As a parent, you are your child's most important advocate until they are old enough and cultured enough to speak up for themselves.



Amazing Bee Facts



Across

- 3 - How many eyes does a bee have?
- 4 - What is a male bee called?
- 6 - Where do bees live?
- 7 - Bee food that is sweet and sticky
- 8 - Bee food that rhymes with swollen

Down

- 1 - A bee can see all colours except which colour?
- 2 - How do bees communicate?
- 3 - How many years can a Queen bee live up to?
- 5 - A female bee (which is not the Queen bee) is called a ...
- 6 - What food do bees make?



Across: 3-Five 4-Drone 6-Hive 7-Nectar 8-Pollen

Down: 1-Red 2-Dance 3-Five 5-Worker 6-Honey

Bee First Aid Kit

Did you know that bees are very important to the environment?

They work really hard... but sometimes they can work *too* hard and run out of energy.

In these times they might need our help – and a bit of first aid!

Resources:

- An empty plastic bottle
- 50g sugar
- 200ml water
- A sticky label, or a piece of paper and cello tape
- A funnel

Instructions-

- 1) Mix the water and sugar together until the water dissolves (disappears)
- 2) Pour the mixture into the bottle (you might need to use a funnel to do this)
- 3) Write “Bee First Aid Kit” on your label and stick it to the bottle. You can decorate bottle if you would like to!
- 4) Keep the bottle in a safe place
- 5) If you see a tired bee, put a spoonful of the mixture nearby, and hopefully that will give them the energy they need!



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What you will need:

- Paper plate
- Paint or colouring pens/pencils
- Scissors
- Elastic or craft sticks/straws



Butterfly mask

To start with you want to sketch your butterfly shape onto your paper plate, keep the outer shape simple as we are going to add more detail using paint or colours. Once you have sketched out your shape cut it out, on your butterfly you need draw your eye holes and any pattern you want on your butterfly. Now you can colour it in using some colours or some paint. If you have used paint wait for it to dry and add any final touches you want, you can even add things like glitter to your mask. Finally, if you have elastic you can use for your mask poke a hole either side and thread some elastic through, if not use a craft stick/straw or something you can use to hold up your mask.



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Caterpillar Craft

Resources:

- Paper plate/paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Felt tips



Instructions:

- Start off by colouring in your caterpillar. You can choose any colours you like!
- When you have coloured your caterpillar in, ask an adult for help and very carefully cut it out.
- Very carefully cut a circle out to create the caterpillars face, and then draw the eyes and mouth and colour in.
- To finish, glue the caterpillars face to the body!



Child-calls-the-shots Day



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Create Your Own Insect

Have you ever wondered why some insects are so small?

Or why some have so many legs?

Or some have hard shells?

It's because insects have to *adapt* to where they live.

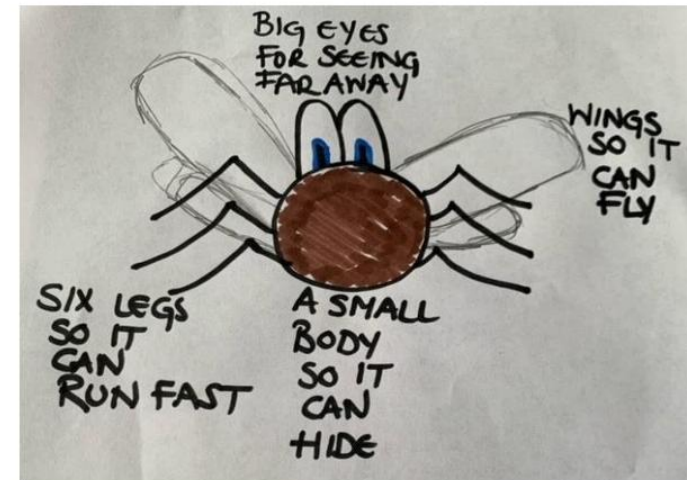
Adapting means animals have certain powers to help them survive – how cool is that?

Resources:

- Paper
- Felts
- Anything else you want to use to decorate your insect

Instructions:

1. Draw a picture of your insect
2. Colour and decorate your insect
3. Label your insect like in the example



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A bee's wings beat 190 times a second, that's 11,400 times a minute.

One dung beetle can drag 1,141 times its weight – that's like a human pulling six double-decker buses!

Bulldog ants can leap seven times the length of their bodies!

The red postman butterfly develops its own poison by eating toxic plants!

Facts about Insects



Male giraffe weevils use their long necks to fight each other.

Dragonflies have been on earth for 300 million years!

A hornet's favourite food is a...bee!

Some male stoneflies do push-ups to attract a mate.

Grasshoppers have special organs in their hind legs that store energy for jumping.

A sea skater's leg hair traps air, enabling it to float on water.

Insect Themed Games and Activities

Winding Caterpillar Race

A winding caterpillar race is as much fun for the parents as it is for the kids. To prep, create two side-by-side winding paths in your yard by outlining them with balloons tied to golf tees or lawn stakes—the balloons lining the paths will also look like long, winding caterpillars.

1. Divide the party guests into two teams and have each team line up at the start of each path.
2. Instruct the kids to hold the waist of the person in front of them, forming a caterpillar.
3. Then, tell them to run through the winding path to the finish line without letting go. The first team to reach the finish line with their caterpillar intact wins.

Exterminator Game

Set a timer for short intervals of play and switch out the players until everyone has had a turn to be the exterminator.

1. Designate a play area and spread out four blankets or beach towels in each corner of the space to act as "gardens."
2. Gather the kids and select one player as the exterminator; give him or her a spray bottle filled with water. The rest of the players are garden bugs.
3. Instruct the bugs to run around the play area, trying to avoid the exterminator.
4. When the exterminator sprays a bug, the bug then drops to the ground and "plays dead" with his or her arms and legs in the air. The rest of the bugs try to rescue their friend by carrying him or her by his or her limbs to one of the gardens. The exterminator can't interfere with a rescue, but he or she can wait beside the garden for the rescuers to emerge.
5. Once a dying bug is rescued, he or she spends one minute "recovering" in the garden before returning to the game.

Insect Themed Games and Activities

Worm-Eating Challenge

Be prepared for a sugar high after this game.

Set up the worm-eating challenge by providing a bucket of gummy worms for kids to bob for. Alternatively, you can tie the worms from ribbon dangling from the ceiling.

1. The child who eats the most worms without using their hands wins.



Bumble Bee Toss

For this game (a favourite of little kids), you will need a flower pot and three homemade bees.

1. To make the bees, use black tape to form stripes on yellow, plastic Easter eggs or glue yellow ribbon to black bean bags.
2. Place the flower pot on the ground, and have the kids line up behind a tossing line.
3. Each player then tries to toss the three bees into the pot.
4. Record one point for each bee that makes it into the pot, and award prizes according to the scores.

Spiderweb Tag

This game starts like any other game of tag, but it has an insect-themed twist.

1. Select a player as the spider, and all the rest of the guests are flies.
2. When the spider tags a fly, that fly then gets caught in the spider's web. The spider and caught fly hold hands and chase after more flies.
3. Each time a fly is caught, the hand-holding forms a larger web.
4. Continue until only one player remains.

Insect Themed Games and Activities

Fly Away Ladybugs

Prepare for this fun ladybug party game by blowing up several red balloons and then decorating them with black dots to look like ladybugs.

1. Divide party guests into two teams of players, and have each team form a circle.
2. Toss a bunch of balloons into each circle. You can start with one balloon per player or choose a number according to the age of your party guests.
3. Instruct the teams to pick up the balloons and keep all of their ladybugs "flying" in the air. When one of the ladybug balloons hits the floor, remove it and then have the players of that team step back to widen their circle.
4. Play until only one team has one balloon remaining. Or, set a timer and record which team has the most balloons at the end of playtime. Select a winner.

Bug Catchers

Fill a large bag with a variety of fake bugs. You can use toy bugs, make your bug crafts, or draw and cut bugs out of construction paper. The idea is to have a lot of bugs for the kids to catch. You can also hide the fake bugs around the garden and send kids on a bug hunt with their nets. The player who returns with the most insects wins.

1. Give each child a butterfly net.
2. Gather the kids in a circle. Have an adult stand on a chair or ladder and release the bugs by shaking them out of the bag above the children's heads.
3. Instruct the kids to catch the falling bugs in their nets. The player who catches the most bugs wins the game.



Insects Quiz

1. What is a silk moth caterpillar or 'silk worm' useful for?

- a) pollinating flowers b) doing homework
c) making silk d) making honey

2. How are an insect's compound eyes different from human eyes?

- a) they are very big b) they are colourful
c) they are made up of thousands of lenses
d) they allow the insect to detect light

3. Why do crickets rub their wings together?

- a) to keep warm b) to warn off predators
c) to help them fly d) to attract a mate

4. How many legs do insects have?

- a) four b) eight c) six d) two

5. What can adult damselflies do that young ones cannot?

- a) walk b) swim
c) fly d) eat

6. Where do young damselflies live?

- a) in water b) in trees
c) underground d) in colonies

7. What is the largest group of insects?

- a) butterflies and moths b) bees, wasps and ants
c) flies d) Beetles

8. What is a newly hatched butterfly called?

- a) butter b) a moth
c) a caterpillar d) a chrysalis

9. Which of these is not a form of insect defence?

- a) poison b) camouflage
c) sharp spines d) screaming



Answers:
Q1. a) making silk Q2. c) they are made up of thousands of lenses 3. d) to attract a mate
Q4. c) six Q5. c) fly Q6. a) in water Q7. d) beetles Q8. c) a caterpillar Q9. d) screaming

What you will need:

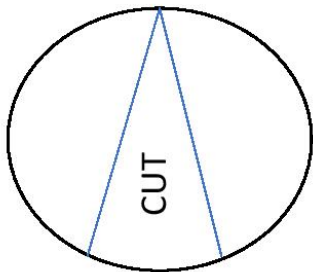
- Paper plate
- Paper
- Scissors and glue
- Paint or colouring pens or pencils



Paper plate ladybird



To start making your ladybird you need to start with your paper plate, Use some scissors to cut a thin triangular slice out of the paper plate (check the diagram in the bottom left). Once you have done this you can paint or colour your ladybird don't forget to add the spots. While your paper plate is drying you need to cut out a circle that is smaller than your paper plate, use some black paper if you have any or you can use some plain paper and colour it in. You also need to create a head for the ladybird, check on your paper plate if its dry you are ready to move on. Take the circle you have just created and stick it underneath your paper plate, this will create the body between the wings. Finally stick on the head and you are finished.



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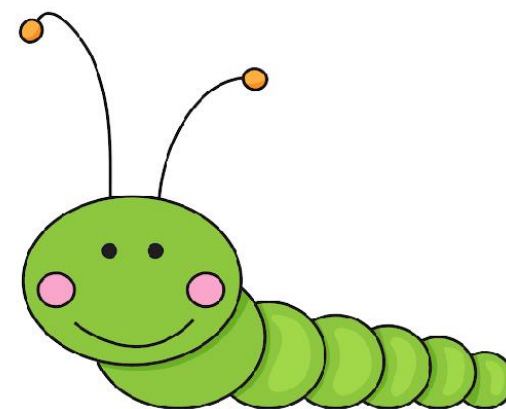
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What you will need:

- Pom Poms
- Glue
- Paper
- Scissors
- Colouring pens or pencils



Pom pom caterpillar



To start with you need to cut out a leaf from some paper, if you have some green paper you can use this or if not use some plain paper and decorate it yourself. Create your leaf and cut it out, then use your pens or pencils to decorate your leaf. Next you need to create your caterpillar, to do this choose some pom poms and stick them in a wiggly line on top of your leaf. For some final touches use some googly eyes if you have them if not you can draw some on paper and stick them on, you can also add some holes to the leaf like the caterpillar has snacked on it.



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