

Gone Buggy

Age 4-Grade 2

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Welcome to Cosley Zoo! This program is designed to introduce your class to the world of insects. Through encounters with live animals, your students will begin to develop an appreciation for insects and learn some of the many ways that insects are useful to people.

Program Objectives:

- to learn the characteristics of an insect
- to learn how insects can be useful to people
- to experience live insects

This class corresponds with the following Illinois learning standards: 4.A.1a, 4.A.1b, 4.B.1b, 12.A.1a, 12.A.1b, 12.B.1a

PRE-VISIT ACTIVITIES

Here are some suggested activities for your class to complete before your visit to Cosley Zoo. Many of these activities correspond with Illinois learning standards, which are listed after the appropriate activities.

1. Go on a bug hunt! Catch some insects in glass jars, and have the students observe them for a few minutes before releasing them back into nature. Ask them to fill out the worksheet entitled “My Insect”. For younger children, observe an insect as a class, make a large copy of the worksheet, and fill it in together. (1.C.1f, 13.A.1c)
2. Read The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle aloud to your students. When the story is over, ask them the following questions to assess their listening and comprehension. (1.C.1b, 2.B.1a, 4.A.1a, 4.A.1b, 10.A.1a, 10.A.1b, 10.B.1b)
 - What types of food did the caterpillar eat?
 - Why did the caterpillar need to eat so much?
 - Have you ever seen a caterpillar in nature? A butterfly?
 - How many pieces of food do you think the caterpillar ate all together? (Ask students to make estimates, then go through the book again. Students should keep track of how much food is eaten by making tally marks on a piece of paper, then adding them up to find the total.)
3. Get pictures of different types of insects from nature magazines or the internet. Discuss the similarities and differences between the insects. Ask students to sort the insects into groups based on common characteristics. (11.A.1e, 12.A.1a, 12.A.1b)
4. Ask students to complete the worksheet entitled “Find the Bugs!” (9.A.1b, 12.A.1b)

POST-VISIT ACTIVITIES

The following post-visit activities will help you to extend your visit to Cosley Zoo. Corresponding learning standards are listed after each activity.

1. Ask students to create their own insects using a section of three egg carton cups for the body and pipe cleaners for legs and antennae. Each creation should exhibit the basic insect components (6 legs, 3 body parts, and antennae). (12.A.1a, 26.B.1d)
2. Distribute the “Insect Fractions” worksheet to your class. Students will create fractions relating to the number of insects in a group. (6.A.1b)

POST-VISIT ACTIVITIES (continued)

3. Ask students to draw a picture of one of the insects they met at Cosley Zoo. Underneath their pictures, they should write three sentences describing things they learned about that insect. (3.A.1, 3.C.1a, 4.A.1c)

4. Divide the class into four groups. Give each group several pipe cleaners of the same color. The color of each group's pipe cleaners should be different from the other groups. Review walking stick insects and how they camouflage, then ask each group to use their pipe cleaners to make 10 walking sticks. Ask one group at a time to hide their walking sticks somewhere in the room, then give the other groups 30 seconds to find as many walking sticks as they can. Keep track of how many walking sticks from each group were found, then discuss the results as a class. (6.D.1, 10.B.1c, 11.A.1c, 11.A.1d)
 - Which group had the most walking sticks found?
 - Which group had the fewest walking sticks found?
 - Why do you think some colors were easier to find than others?

If you have questions or comments about your visit to Cosley Zoo, please share them with us. Call 630-665-5534 or send them to:

Education Supervisor
Cosley Zoo
1356 Gary Ave.
Wheaton, IL 60187

MY INSECT

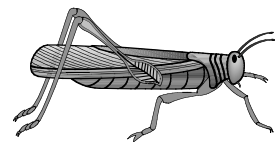
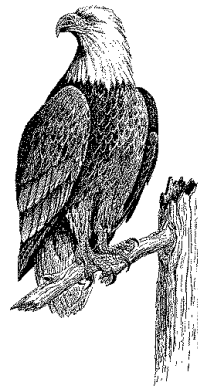
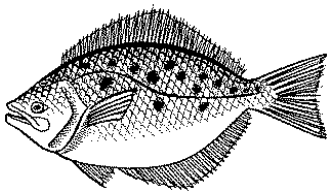
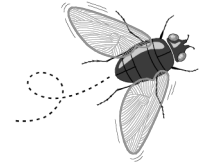
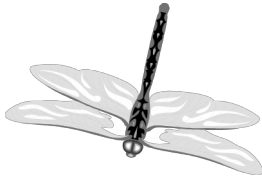
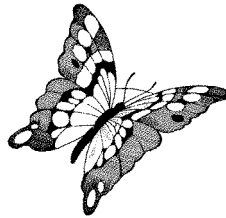
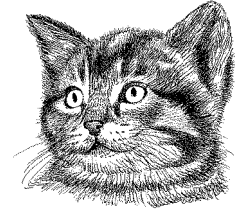
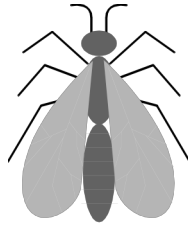
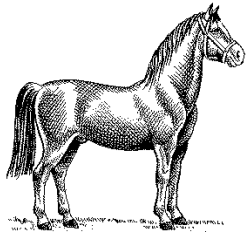
Observe your insect and fill out the table below.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| What color is your insect? | |
| Does it have wings? | |
| Where did you find it? | |
| How many legs does it have? | |
| Can you see its eyes? | |
| Is your insect moving? | |

Draw your insect below.

FIND THE BUGS!

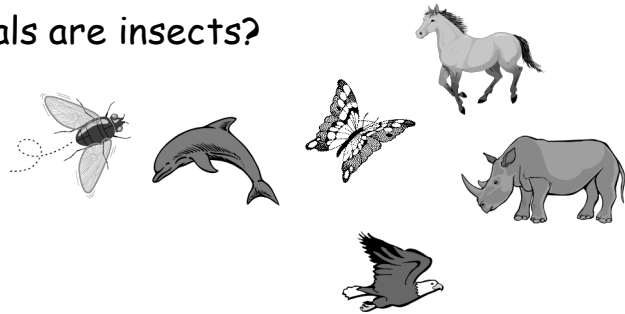
Draw a triangle around each of the insects.



INSECT FRACTIONS

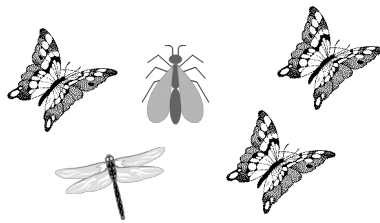
1. How many of these animals are insects?

6



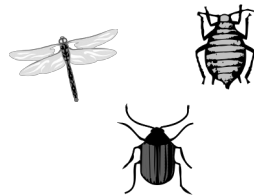
2. How many of these insects are butterflies?

5



3. How many of these insects have wings?

3



4. How many of these insects are ladybugs?

7

