

Arthropods All Around

1st Grade Program

Description: Arthropods are all around, just waiting to be observed by bug-eyed scientists. With microscopes and magnifying glasses, the small world of arthropods will come alive.

Objectives:

- Students will understand what three characteristics all arthropods have.
- Students will identify at least one structure that arthropods have and explain how it helps the animal survive.
- Students will be able to compare and contrast insects and arachnids using the appropriate vocabulary (# of legs, body parts)
- Students will use scientific tools (bug boxes and microscopes)

Bug Hunt Station:

Encourage students to explore the designated area. You can help point out bugs to students.

At the end of each rotation, please make sure all students have their bug boxes and magnifying glasses. Check area for any misplaced supplies.

Behavior Expectations:

- Do not pick up bugs that are too big
 - Do not pick up spiders or bees
 - Stay within the designated area
- Watch your step – areas may be muddy
 - Quiet voices to not disturb wildlife

Talking Points:

- Where do you think the arthropods live?
- Ask students to count the number of legs on their bug

Magiscopes & Kaleidoscopes Station:

Arthropods include animals like ants, butterflies, ladybugs, bees, and spiders.

Let students explore the eye glasses and kaleidoscopes to learn how arthropods see. Students can also look at different arthropods under the magiscopes to get a closer look at their eyes, legs, and wings.

Teaching Points:

- **Compound eyes:** special eyes in arthropods, help them see in different light than humans to find food more easily
- **Exoskeleton:** skeleton on the outside of a body

Behavior Expectations:

- Only touch the red handle of the magiscopes
- Keep magiscopes flat on the table or ground
- Cover one eye or close it and touch the eyelashes of your other eye to the top of the tube to see