

Insect Safari Hunt



Let's take
a look...



Your site is teeming with insects! They might be flying through the air, chomping on plants or hiding in logs or under rocks. Insects make up almost 75% of the animal kingdom! Put on your detective cap and see how many insects you can spot.

What to bring

- Hat and sunscreen
- Water
- Sturdy footwear
- First aid kit
- Field guide or wildlife identification app
- Hand lens (optional)
- Insect net (optional)
- Phone/camera (optional)

Things to do

1. Start by looking for flying insects like butterflies and bees. How many can you find? Watch the different ways they move through the air. Estimate how fast do you think they move? Why do you think they need to move fast?
2. Look closely at the plants at your site. Can you find any signs that insects may be present (eg. chewed leaves or leaves with holes, spider webs). Don't forget to look underneath leaves and inside flowers. Does the insect's colour or shape help it stay hidden? Lots of insects are masters of camouflage!
3. Get down on your hands and knees and turn over rocks and look under leaf litter and logs. These are great places for insects to stay out of the sun or hide from predators. What happens when you uncover them? What do you think they eat? Take care not to step on anything living, and remember to return anything to its original place if you move it. Watch out for snakes when moving rocks or logs.

Which insect was the smallest? Which was the largest? The fastest? The slowest? The best hider? Did you have a favourite?

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