



# NATURE DETECTIVES





## Hello Nature Detectives - are you ready to explore?

Today, let's discover insects. Let's look for beneficial insects that help keep our gardens healthy. Look closely with your eyes and listen for their sounds. *Enjoy!*

## Insects:

**Begin your detective work** by figuring out where your adventure will take you.

 **Explorer Garden:** a fun place to turn over old logs to find ants and beetles underneath. These decomposers eat dead materials and help to make soil for plants to grow in.

 **Pond Walk:** a garden with flowers is a great place to find bees and other pollinators! Pollinators help plants make new plants. Our Pond Walk has both flowers and water.

 Dragonflies like to live near water and love to eat mosquitos and other insects.

## Adult insects have a lot of really cool body parts:

- 3 main body parts: head, thorax, abdomen
- 6 legs
- 2 antennae
- 1 or 2 pairs of wings (not all insects have wings!)
- Compound eyes give them excellent vision and the ability to look in all directions.

? *Compare your body to an insect's body!*

## MOVE like an insect:

 Some insects fly in the sky and some crawl down low 

 Buzz around like a bee or hop like a grasshopper 

? *Can you name an animal that likes to eat insects?*

**LOOK and LISTEN** for insects with the following colors, shapes, movements and sounds:

Yellow	Black	Long	Round	Crawling	Flying	Rattle	Buzz
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? *What was your favorite part about discovering insects today?*

 *Find something cool? Share your detective skills with us: @JAGardens, #JenkinsArboretum*