The life of insects tells many amazing stories. What is an insect? What do insects do?

- Learn basic facts about insects.
- Identify the insects that live near you.
- Learn about pest management.
- Participate in online insect monitoring surveys.
- Learn which insect is the biggest, fastest or strongest in the world.
- Learn about insects and how they benefit the environment.

Pass it on!
Now that you know how, share it with others. Here are ideas to get you started.

**Communication**

- Give a presentation on your favorite insect.
- Make a video on how to collect and pin insects.
- Teach your club how to identify common area insects.

**Citizenship**

- Monitor the city park for mosquito populations.
- Adopt and maintain a butterfly flower garden at a park.
- Do a presentation at a city council meeting about WINGS butterfly survey results in the community.

**Leadership**

- Organize the activities to complete an insect survey.
- Help an adult teach a class about insects.
- Volunteer to help with garden tours and identify insects.

**Entrepreneurship**

- Offer to monitor and control insects in an organic garden.
- Start an insect pest-control business.

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Here’s what you can do all year!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Out Basic/Level 1</th>
<th>Learning More Intermediate/Level 2</th>
<th>Expanding Horizons Advanced/Level 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Learn what insects do for us.</td>
<td>• Learn how insects adapt to their environments.</td>
<td>• Start an insect collecting club.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Learn the basic parts of an insect.</td>
<td>• Learn about insect life cycles.</td>
<td>• Learn about insect control methods in forestry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Collect and identify different insects.</td>
<td>• Participate in developing a butterfly garden.</td>
<td>• Do an insect survey for a local farmer or city garden.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Learn about plants and other insects that insects may eat.</td>
<td>• Learn to build insect traps.</td>
<td>• Learn about integrated pest management for the yard or garden.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Learn about insect predators.</td>
<td>• Participate in the Butterfly WINGS, Lost Lady Bug or Pollinator: Live online learning activities.</td>
<td>• Experiment with insect populations in organic production.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Learn how insects pollinate plants.</td>
<td>• Discover the different ways insects survive winter.</td>
<td>• Participate in beekeeping or start a honey business.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Examine parts of a plant and discover the function of the parts.</td>
<td>• Learn how color influences insect life.</td>
<td>• Mentor other youth in online survey activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Learn about first aid for an insect bite.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Here are other opportunities to explore entomology:

- Design an ant farm and show it at your school science fair.
- Collect insects and show them in your science class.
- Help other youth design and build insect traps.
- Job shadow at a pest control service or honey operation to explore careers that interest you.
- Contact your county NDSU Extension office for other local workshops, activities and events.
- Interview a beekeeper about his/her business.
- Interested in a college education in the area of entomology? Schedule a visit with North Dakota State University to explore these majors: (www.ndsu.edu/entomology/).

### 4-H Resources

- **National 4-H Entomology Curriculum**
  - Teaming with Insects, Level 1 (HBC101)
  - Teaming with Insects, Level 2 (HBC102)
  - Teaming with Insects, Level 3 (HBC103)
  - Teaming with Insects Facilitators Guide (HBC212)
- **National 4-H Butterfly Curriculum**
  - Butterfly WINGS Youth Guide (HBC111)
  - Butterfly WINGS Leader Guide (HBC111)

### Other Resources

- **Entomology Educational Trunks**
  - Online Insect Monitoring
    - Butterfly WINGS
    - Pollinator: Live
    - Lost Lady Bug
    - Kentucky Bug Connection

### Recordkeeping

- **Planning for My Project Adventure (PA093)**
- **ND 4-H Project Plan (PA095)**
- **ND 4-H Plan of Action (PA096)**
- **ND 4-H Participation for 11-19 (PA098)**

**Exhibit Ideas**

- Exhibit an insect collection.
- Make a poster about the parts of an insect and life cycle.
- Build an anatomically accurate model insect from clay.
- Do a poster about ants along with an ant farm exhibit.
- Create a logbook and picture record of one year of insect surveys in your area.
- Design and construct a butterfly flower garden.
- Complete an exhibit of the equipment needed for beekeeping.
- Prepare a poster to show how to harvest honey.
- Display different types of traps and insect-collecting methods.
- Make a cost/profit comparison about starting your own honey business.
- Do a poster about insect pests in organic gardening and how to control them.
- Keep an insect journal.
- Build a lady bug house.
- Complete a comparison of chemical and biological control of insects in a garden.

Learn more at [www.ndsu.edu/4h/](http://www.ndsu.edu/4h/) or contact your county NDSU Extension office.

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