CLOVERBUDS CONNECTION

April - May 2024

NEXT MEETING

Cloverbuds meet on every 3rd Wednesday of the month from 4-6 pm.
April 17th
May 22nd

4-H HIGHLIGHTS

Please enroll at https://4h.zsuite.org/
You must be active status to participate including your payment of $5 for the year.
Sign up for Remind! TEXT @4-hclover to 81010

CLOVER BUDDING SEASON

Hello, Cloverbuds families,

Spring has arrived, and it's almost un-bee-lievable! With the warmer weather, expect the sprouting of new plants, flowers, and even a blade of green grass now and then. Along with this plant life comes the presence of small, mysterious creatures known as BUGS!

This month, our focus is on exploring how bugs move and grow. We are thrilled to share with you all about these small ecosystems that exist right beneath our feet. Make sure you attend class this month to complete your fun project, make a craft, develop your skills in STEM, play a game and even have a snack!

Buzz Out,
Sammy and Molly

POLLINATION BY BUGS

Flowers produce a sweet ENERGY DRINK called NECTAR. Little garden friends need ENERGY, just like people do. Animal Pollinators such as Bats, Bees & Wasps, Ladybugs & Beetles, Birds, Butterflies, Flies, and Moths are needed for the reproduction of over 90% of flowering plants and one third of human food crops! By visiting flowers in search of food (nectar and pollen), pollinators KEEP THE ENERGY GOING in the garden. Read more https://kidsgrowingstrong.org/pollinators/

HOME IS WHERE THE BUGS ARE

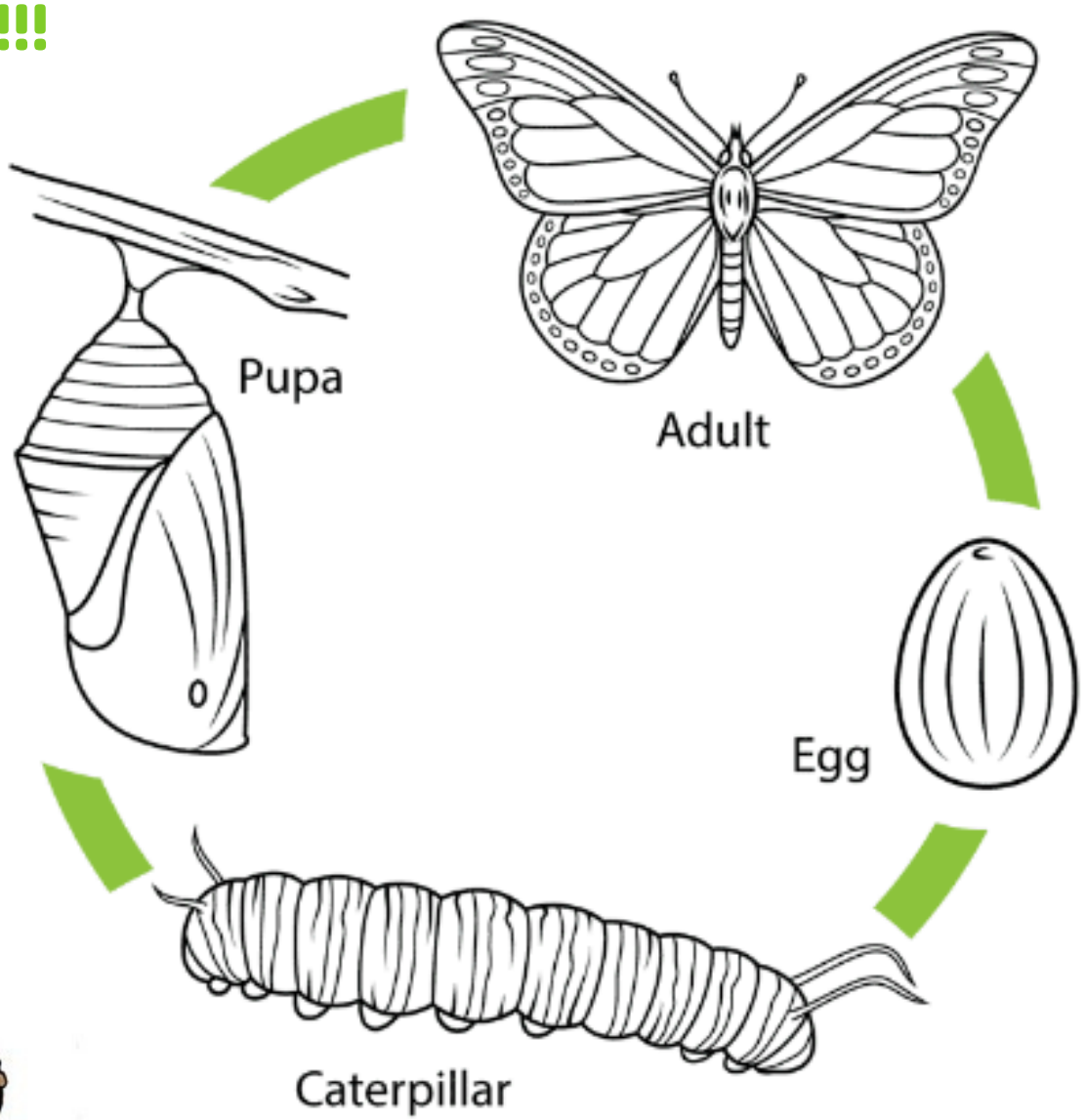
Make a bug habitat! Supplies: search through your recycling for some good empty boxes that could house bugs. Go outside and find different materials like leaves, grass, sticks and seed pods. 1.Put them in the boxes and leave them outside. Maybe put rocks at the bottom or place them where the wind wont blow them away. 2. Check back to see who makes a new home!

MAKE IT YOURS!

Need: Paper, Scissors and glue, paper plate, beads or markers
1. Have an adult help you cut out a rounded half-heart shape for the snails head and long skinny rectangles for the eyes 2. Glue the snail body to the back of the paper plate. 3. Use two long skinny rectangles for the eyes and glue on googly eyes or make eyes with paper. 4. Glue beads in a spiral form to the plate for the snail's shell or just decorate with crayons and markers. Snail-tastic Craft!!!

Life Cycle of a Monarch Butterfly

COLOR ME!!!



BUGGY ANATOMY GAME

To tune of: London Bridge is Falling Down
Head and thorax, abdomen, abdomen, abdomen.
Head and thorax, abdomen, That's an insect.
Every insect has six legs, has six legs, has six legs.
Every insect has six legs, that's an insect.
Antennae to feel their way, feel their way, feel their way.
Antennae to feel their way, that's an insect.






Wyoming 4-H

CAMPBELL COUNTY EXTENSION
412 S. Gillette Ave
Gillette, WY 82716

Issued in furtherance of extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Kelly Crane, Director, University of Wyoming Extension, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Wyoming Extension, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming 82071. The University of Wyoming is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

UW | Wyoming 4-H

ENTOMOLOGY

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Have you ever chased a butterfly or caught a lady beetle? The 4-H Entomology Project allows you to study and learn about insects, the largest group of animals on earth. This project will introduce you to the world of insects, show you how to collect and display insects you find, and even show you how to do explore forensic entomology by completing insect research and using the scientific method.

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN LEARN...

STARTING OUT

- Learn to identify insect parts and various shapes, sizes and colors of insects.
- Match an insect's form to its function and explore its adaptations.
- Discover insect behaviors of jumping, flying, walking and other behaviors, comparing them to human abilities.
- Explore insect biodiversity by collecting various insects using different traps.
- Learn about invasive insect species and the reasons for their survival success.

LEARNING MORE

- Explore how to make insect collection tools such as an aerial net, hand lens, collecting jar and releasing jar.
- Attract and collect insects, and then study the diversity of the specimens collected.
- Observe and study various behaviors of insects, such as feeding, attraction and movement.
- Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices within your home.
- Explore forensic entomology principles to properly identify an insect.

GOING FURTHER

- Conduct research and use additional resources for in-depth study of entomology.
- Use the scientific method to record and keep accurate records to use in reporting or presenting your findings.
- Explore the use of transect sampling to study and monitor the environmental health of a habitat.
- Continue explorations in diversity through advanced insect collection and measurements using the scientific method.

RESOURCES

- Teaming with Insects, *Level 1 (08440)*
- Teaming with Insects, *Level 2 (08441)*
- Teaming with Insects, *Level 3 (08442)*
- Teaming with Insects, *Facilitators Guide (08443)*

TAKE IT FURTHER!

- Learn about different kinds of insects that humans can eat. Consider making an insect treat to share at your club meeting.
- Start raising an insect as a pet or for a hobby. Observe the insects behaviors in a variety of settings.
- Visit the University of Wyoming Insect Museum located in Room 4018 of the Agriculture Building.
- Do an internet search to learn more about how crickets can help to tell temperature. Test the theory to see if it is true.
- Find and study an ant colony over time.
- Study the life cycle of an insect. A great place to start would be a caterpillar, watch it turn into a cocoon, then a butterfly or moth.
- Take a hike and see how many different types of insects you can find.
- Learn about different types of insecticides. Even learn how to make your own bug repellent.
- Become a beekeeper and harvest your own honey.
- Take a field trip to your local co-op or seed dealer to learn about common insects in your area.
- Visit a lawn care company to learn how they control pests.
- Do an interview with an exterminator.
- Research careers related to entomology.

ENHANCE YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Do a presentation on Integrated Pest Management to help solve an insect related problem.

Enter the 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest. This contest is held each year with entries due in early March, the contest is sponsored by The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.

GET INVOLVED IN CITIZENSHIP AND SERVICE

Create a community flower garden to attract beneficial insects.

Take your insect collection to an elementary school or nursing home and show it to others.

Make an insect craft with your club members and donate them to a local hospital or nursing home to use as tray favors.

Work with a beekeeper or raise your own bees to provide honey to a local food pantry or family in need.

LEARN ABOUT LEADERSHIP

Host a Cloverbud meeting about insects.

Develop and implement a biological control program for an invasive species.

Host a club bug collecting contest to help members learn about insects in your area.

EXHIBIT IDEAS

- A collection of insects that are mounted and labeled
- A display of insect body parts
- Create a pitfall insect trap
- Make a model of an insect's eye
- Display on types of insect control in the home
- Insect trap
- Poster on insect metamorphosis
- Display of insect leg parts
- Poster on understanding insect pesticide labels
- Plans for a butterfly garden
- Display of various types of insect mouth parts
- Display of various types of insect wings
- A pinning kit

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