

Reproduce the caterpillar pattern and let your students use it as a cutting and decorating activity.



\* Tape to desktop and use as student name plates.

\* Punch a hole in each end of the caterpillar and hang from string as a nametag.

\* Have your "bookworms" make bookmarks.

\* Spelling words are more fun when they are spelling "worms"

Use on a spelling worm bulletin board!

\* For beginning readers, label the items in your classroom with reading worms, i.e. pencil sharpener, door, window, etc. by writing the name of the item on the bug and attaching it to (or near) the item.



## bugs on the glass

@ Lay a piece of clear plastic wrap on a flat surface. (If you need to be able to move the project during the drying process, cover a piece of cardboard with the wrap.)

@ Draw fancy bugs on the plastic wrap using colorful glue. Be sure and have the children include the body parts they have learned about.

@ Leave the glue drawing undisturbed until it is completely dry. (This can take 24 hours or more to dry, depending on the humidity!)

@ When dry, peel bug drawing off plastic wrap. These drawings can be attached to the window glass by simply laying them on the glass.



## Insect Web Resources

<http://www.education-world.com/>

type in insect for search - great starting point for many sites

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/alienempire/>

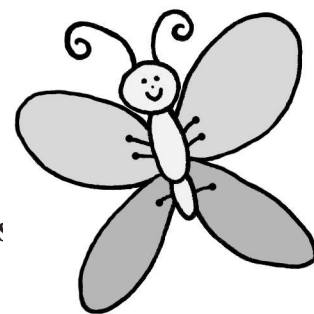
great information along with puzzles to unscramble and short videos

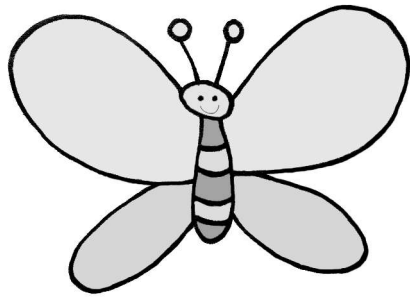
<http://www.ent.iastate.edu/imagegallery/>

great insect photos

<http://bugscope.beckman.uiuc.edu>

Bugscope offers magnified images of specimens of insects and anthropods viewed through an electron microscope





## Creative writing idea starters

- \* if I could fly like a butterfly, I would . . .
- \* my life in the hive -- one bee's story
  - \* dragonfly adventures
  - \* ladybugs learn to limbo
- \* grasshopper family goes on vacation
  - \* stinkbug starts school
  - \* jitterbug jingles
- \* what does a doodlebug doodle?
- \* Marvin Mosquito's Magic Show

## Here's a list of books to share with your bookworms!

The Beetle by Maria Mudd, illustrations by Wendy Smith Griswold. A pop-up book that is scientifically based. This is a book that older readers may find interesting. The pop-up bugs should intrigue even non-readers.

Insects are My Life by Megan McDonald, illustrations by Paul Brett Johnson. Funny book about a girl named Amanda Frankenstein who loves bugs! Read this book out loud to your students then make paper bugs!

Miss Spider's ABC by David Kirk. Popular books (several in the series) with brilliantly colored, magical illustrations that are popular with people of all ages.

The Grouchy Ladybug by Eric Carle. The Eric Carle books are beautiful, funny and teaches a lesson. Another great book to read out loud to your students.

## Insect Art

\* Have students draw on coffee filters with Crayola washable markers . Make dots, squiggles, zig-zag lines and use lots of bright colors. Lay filter in a piece of white paper (the backside of a used sheet of paper works well) Spray a little water on the decorated coffee filter. watch the colors run and soften. Leave filter lying flat until dry. After it is completely dry, use the decorated coffee filter to complete a bug project. It can be the wings of a clothespin dragonfly. Just accordion fold the filter and insert it in the clothespin. Be sure and decorate the clothespin with markers and even pipe cleaner antennas!

\* Here's a beautiful critter to make for your window. Get a piece of dark colored construction paper- green, blue, or black work well. Draw a bug on your paper. Cut out the bug, and also cut out assorted, uneven holes in your creature. Then glue small pieces of colored tissue paper (or use the decorated coffee filter) to the back side of your bug to cover the holes. When the glue is dry, hang it in a window.

\* Make a flock of beetles for your classroom! Each student will need 2 paper plates and markers. Cut 1 plate in half and attach the two halves with a paper brad to the whole plate. You might need to help little fingers by punching a small hole to make it easier to attach the brad. Now let them be creative and make their own beetle.

