

Lesson Plan
PreK, Kindergarten, First Grade
A Bug Time Story

Lesson Title: What Makes an Insect an Insect?

Objective: The students will identify the characteristics of insects and sort animals that belong in the insect category and those that do not.

Materials:

Book-*A Bug Time Story*

Title your pocket chart Insects/Not Insects

Insect photos, for the pocket chart sorting activity (Printable)

Insect sorting independent activity sheet (Printable)

Insect Song, the lyrics are in the lesson plan (write lyrics on big paper)

Manila paper, crayons, pencils

1. **Engage:** Students will view the book, *A Bug Time Story*, then discuss the types of insects from the story.

2. **Teach:** The teacher will lead a discussion about the characteristics of insects. (Insects have 3 basic body parts, a head, a thorax and an abdomen. Also, insects have 6 legs, antennae to smell and feel with, and wings to fly.)

3. Ask students:

What types of insects have you seen recently?

All Insects have 6 legs. So are spiders insects? No, spiders, have 8 legs and are called arachnoids.

Do insects have bones like people? No, insects have an exoskeleton (on the outside of their body); we have endoskeletons (in the inside of our body).

Insects do not have hands to feel things or a nose to smell. What do you think they use to feel and smell? Their antennae.

How do you think insects fly? They have two pairs of wings.

What is your favorite insect and why?

4. Lead the class in one of the Insect Songs, whichever you prefer. Sing to the tune of "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes"

Insect Song #1

Head and thorax, abdomen; abdomen,
Head and thorax, abdomen; abdomen,
Antennae, wings and six legs too,
Don't let this bug land on you,
Shoo, bug, shoo!

Insect Song #2

Head, Thorax, Abdomen; Abdomen,
Head, Thorax, Abdomen; Abdomen,
Eyes and wings, antennae too,
Six buggy legs,
And that's an insect for you!

5. Guided Practice: Sorting Photos of Insects/Not Insects Pocket Chart Activity. Call on students to place the photos in the correct column of the pocket chart labeled Insects/Not Insects. Guide the children as they observe, identify and name the characteristics. Let each student have a turn.

6. Independent Practice: Hand out the Insect Sorting independent activity printable. The students will answer the questions with a pencil. Then, students will cut the insects/not insects pictures, sort and glue in the correct sorting column.

7. Extension Activity: On a piece of folded Manila paper, the student will draw 5 insects on the left side of the paper and draw 5 non insect animals on the right side of the paper. The students may label their paper as Insect/ Not an Insect.

8. Closure: Ask students to name the characteristics of insects. Ask students to name a few insects. Call on volunteers to share their Insect/Not an Insect drawing with the class.

9. Assessment: Observe students for understanding during the teach and guided practice portions. Collect the insect sorting activity sheet and the insect/not an insect drawing and grade based on correct sorting and correct written answers.

Teacher's Quiz Key
A Bug Time Story

1. How are ants, moths and fleas alike?
 - a. They all like picnics.
 - b. They all cause dogs to scratch.
 - c. They all live in old closets.
 - d. They are all insects.**

2. Which word rhymes with fleas?
 - a. firefly
 - b. ant
 - c. bees**
 - d. cricket

3. What is the first letter in the word ants?
 - a. a**
 - b. n
 - c. t
 - d. s

4. Which two words join together to make the word firefly?
 - a. fire, hose
 - b. fire, fly**
 - c. shoo, fly
 - d. butter, fly

5. Which two words join together to make the word ladybug?
 - a. lady, fly
 - b. lady, ant
 - c. lady, moth
 - d. lady, bug**

6. Find the letter "e" in the word beetle. How many are there?
 - a. 1
 - b. 2
 - c. 3**
 - d. 4

7. Find the letter "o" in the words doodle bug. How many are there?
 - a. 1
 - b. 2**
 - c. 3
 - d. 4

8. What are the last two letters in the word moth?

- a. mo
- b. sh
- c. th**
- d. ch

9. Which insect makes honey?

- a. ants
- b. crickets
- c. ladybugs
- d. bees**

10. What do the words firefly, ladybug and dragonfly have in common?

- a. They all begin with the letter "f".
- b. They all begin with the letter "l".
- c. They all have the same rhyming sound.
- d. They are all compound words.**