

INSECTS AS EDUCATIONAL TOOLS

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WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

This course offers a general overview of insects and explores how they can be used in the classroom to enhance science education. Topics include insect diversity, classification of insects and other organisms, insect structure and function, insect behavior, and science inquiry.

WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

- , Children are fascinated by insects!
- , Insects are just plain fun to learn about and work with.
- , Insects are great tools to teach biological concepts.
- , Insects are readily available, inexpensive, and easy to maintain

COURSE GOALS

When you finish this course, you will be able to:

- , describe the diversity of insects and basics of insect biology
- , identify major insect groups
- , describe the beneficial and detrimental roles insects play in our lives
- , use the scientific method to make discoveries about living things
- , develop simple demonstrations and experiments to stimulate students' interest in insects and science

COURSE OVERVIEW

Module 1:

Module 1 provides an overview on reasons to study insects, the classification system, insect biology, and specific insects for classroom use. This module consists of eleven lectures covered over a 5 week time period.

Module 2:

Module 2 focuses on science inquiry and provides you with the opportunity to gain experience in teaching science inquiry lessons with insects. This module also serves as a stepping stone to developing your own science inquiry lessons.

Module 3:

Module 3 requires you to incorporate the content knowledge on insects learned in Module 1 with the steps of the inquiry process to generate two unique inquiry investigations for K-12 classrooms.