**Insect Scavenger Hunt**

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Welcome to the Insect Scavenger Hunt! The objective of this activity is to collect as many cards as possible from the hidden boxes scattered at four different locations. You will have the opportunity to learn all about the variety in the insect world and have fun doing it! Subjects covered include insect habitats, insect damage to plants, mimicry, camouflage, and different types of life stages. You will also learn about the variety of orders and families and have a chance to explore and discover new things.

**General Information**

Scattered throughout the surrounding areas of South Milwaukee are four locations, each containing four hidden boxes. Each box holds a set of cards depicting an insect commonly found in the area. For each insect there are several Normal Cards and one Gold Card. The person who first discovers the box may take the Gold Card. There is also a pen and pad of paper to record your name, date, and any interesting findings in the area. Please leave the box and contents (with the exception of the card) exactly where you found it.

Before you begin, you may download and print the Overview Map and the Area Maps to help discover the boxes. For each Area, you must discover the first box without any other clues aside from the location given on the map. Taped to the underside of the lid of each box are three clues to the exact location of the other boxes in the Area. You may choose to pursue the boxes in any order.

**Rules**

There are two ways to play the activity and you may decide which version to participate in.

Group Activity - This variation of the activity is competitive and can be used during a class or with a group of friends and family. Prior to the activity, the organizer should make sure each box is stocked with cards.

*Objective*: Collect cards, take pictures of insects, and score the most points. Points are decided by pictures of insects plus any multipliers awarded by collecting cards. Supplies needed: device capable of taking pictures (camera, cellphone, Ipod, etc), logbook to keep track of points, prizes if needed.

1. Each person should take one Overview Map and one of each of the four Area Maps.
2. Groups may separate to venture to any of the four Areas or stick together at the discretion of the organizer.
3. Locate each of the four boxes in the Area and take one card. The first person to find the box may take the Gold Card.
4. At each Sub Area, take as many pictures as you’d like of whatever insects you find. Keep your three best to submit for points.
5. Points are awarded as follows:
*1 Point* - each unique insect. Maximum 3 per Sub Area.
*3 Points* - insect found on card collected at the Sub Area.
*5 Points* - each unique rare insect. Maximum 3 per Sub Area. View list for rare insects.
*x2 Multiplier* - awarded with Gold Card. Multiply points for one insect per card collected.
6. Add up points at the end of the activity. Organizer may hand out awards to people with the top three scores.

Individual Activity - This variation is meant to be done on your own at any time. There is no point system or prize awarded for this activity.

1. Print out an Overview Map and one of each of the four Area Maps.
2. Locate each of the four boxes in the Area and take one card. You may take a Gold Card if it is available.
3. Log your name, date, and findings in the logbook provided.

**NOTE**: No points will be awarded for pictures of stinging insect nests for safety reasons. Please do not approach as these insects can be highly aggressive and dangerous to you or others in the group. It is at your discretion to take pictures of individual stinging insects away from their nests.

**Rare Insects**

Hangingfly

Scorpionfly

Leaf cutter bees

Digger wasp

Mud dauber

Lacewing

Stonefly

Katydid

Woods cockroach

Giant water bug

Water strider

Swallowtail butterfly

Scorpion fly

Robber fly

Bee fly

Praying mantis

Sphingid moth

Stick insect

Scale insect

Bagworm

Dobsonfly

Hellgrammite

Caterpillar hunter

Cicada

\*Organizer may add more if needed

This information is provided to the organizer.

**Locations and Clues**

1. South Milwaukee High School
* 1 European Earwig - Under fallen log near path entrance
* 2 Crane Fly - Peninsula in swamp
* 3 Ant Mound - Near dugout
* 4 Mayfly Nymph - Next to partially submerged tree
1. Grant Park
* 5 Insect Gall - Near entrance of bridge
* 6 Bumblebee - In tall grass at edge of grassland
* 7 Candy-Striped Leafhopper - Behind tree with carved initials
* 8 Flower Fly - Behind tree at perimeter of center cluster
1. Warnimont Park
* 9 Carolina Grasshopper - Behind info sign
* 10 Milkweed Beetle - Behind large rock off of path
* 11 Japanese Beetle - Under tree at cliffside
* 12 Monarch Butterfly - In vegetation in milkweed patch
1. Oak Leaf Trail - Area 4
* 13 Ebony Jewelwing Damselfly - Next to fallen tree near gate
* 14 Spittlebug - In tall grass near barren ground
* 15 Widow Skimmer Dragonfly - Behind rocks at water’s edge
* 16 Aphids - In tall grass at base of steep hill