

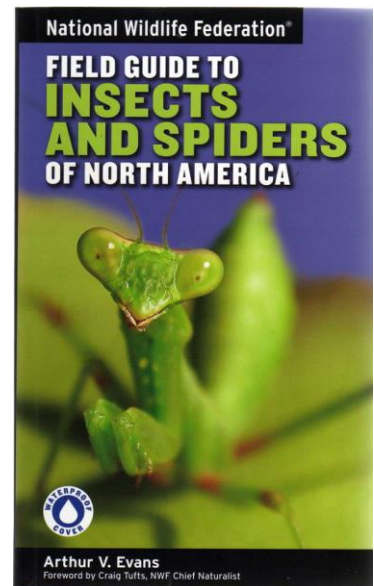
Collecting and Identifying Insects

When collecting an insect...

- Keep track of important information about the insect
 - Location
 - Date
 - Environment (such as under a rock, on a flower, or in a stream)
- Keep the information with the insect; you will use it later to label your specimen.
- Store your insects in the freezer until you are ready to pin them. This keeps them fresh and flexible.

When identifying an insect...

- It can be difficult to know what type of insect you collected without help. You can **use a field guide** to help identify the insects you collect.
- You will need to **closely observe the insect's characteristics** such as...
 - Color
 - Shape of the body
 - Antennae (What do they look like?)
 - Wings (How many? How do they look?)
 - Legs (How many? What type?)
- **Think about where you found the insect.** Knowing an insect's habitat can help you identify it.

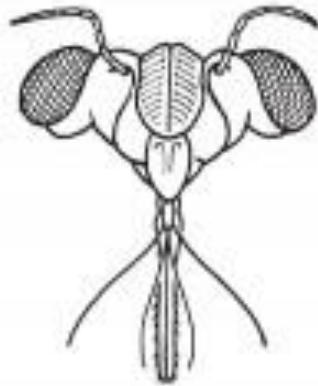


Insect mouthparts

sucking



butterfly
(side view)



cicada
(front view)

lapping



bee
(front view)



housefly
(front view)

chewing

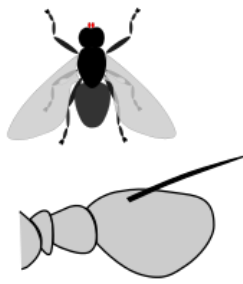


beetle
(front view)

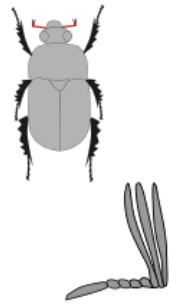


grasshopper
(side view)

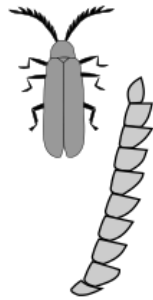
Types of Antennae



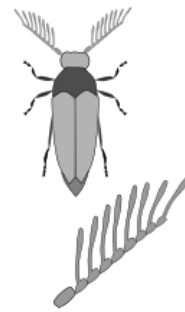
ARISTATE



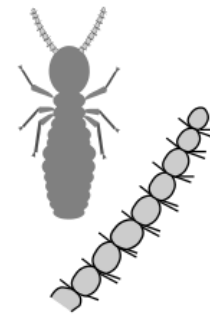
LAMELLATE



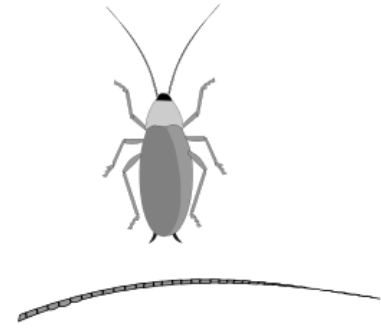
SERRATE



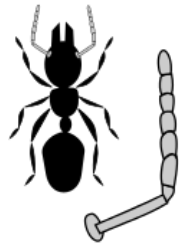
FLABELLATE



MONILIFORM



SETACEOUS



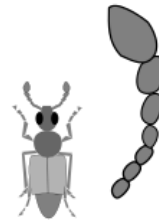
GENICULATE



PLUMOSE



PECTINATE

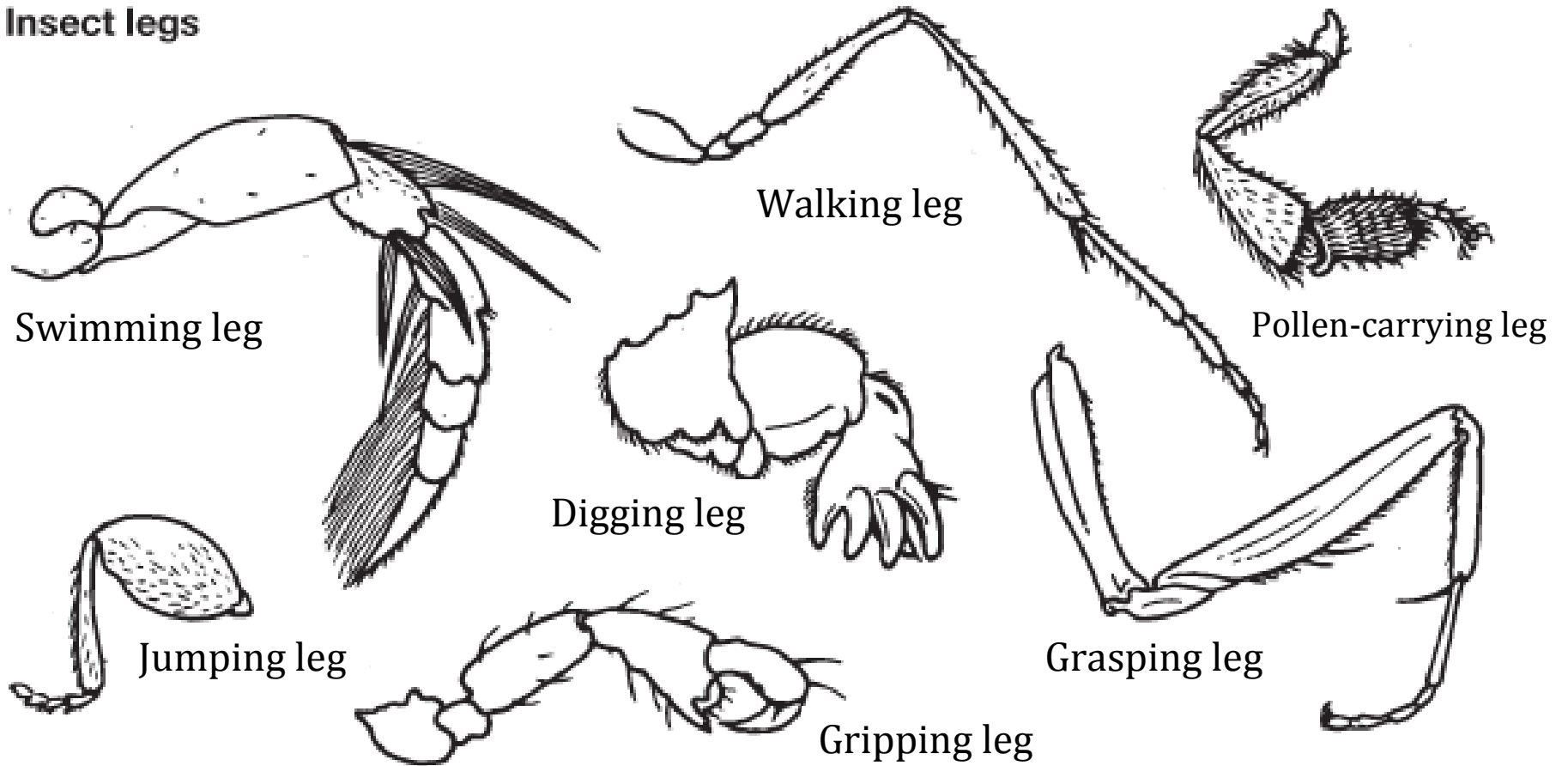


CLAVATE



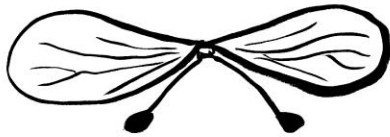
STYLATE

Insect legs



Wing Features

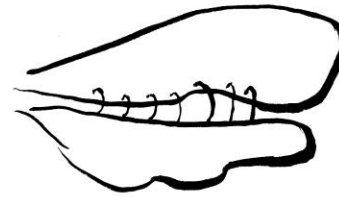
Wings: special features



Flies:
a pair of barbells



Beetles:
hard covers



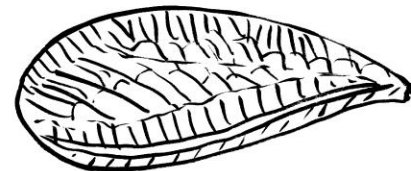
Bees & wasps:
hooks



**Butterflies &
moths:**
Scales



'True' bugs:
 $\frac{1}{2}$ thick & leathery
 $\frac{1}{2}$ clear & membranous



Lacewings:
Veins!