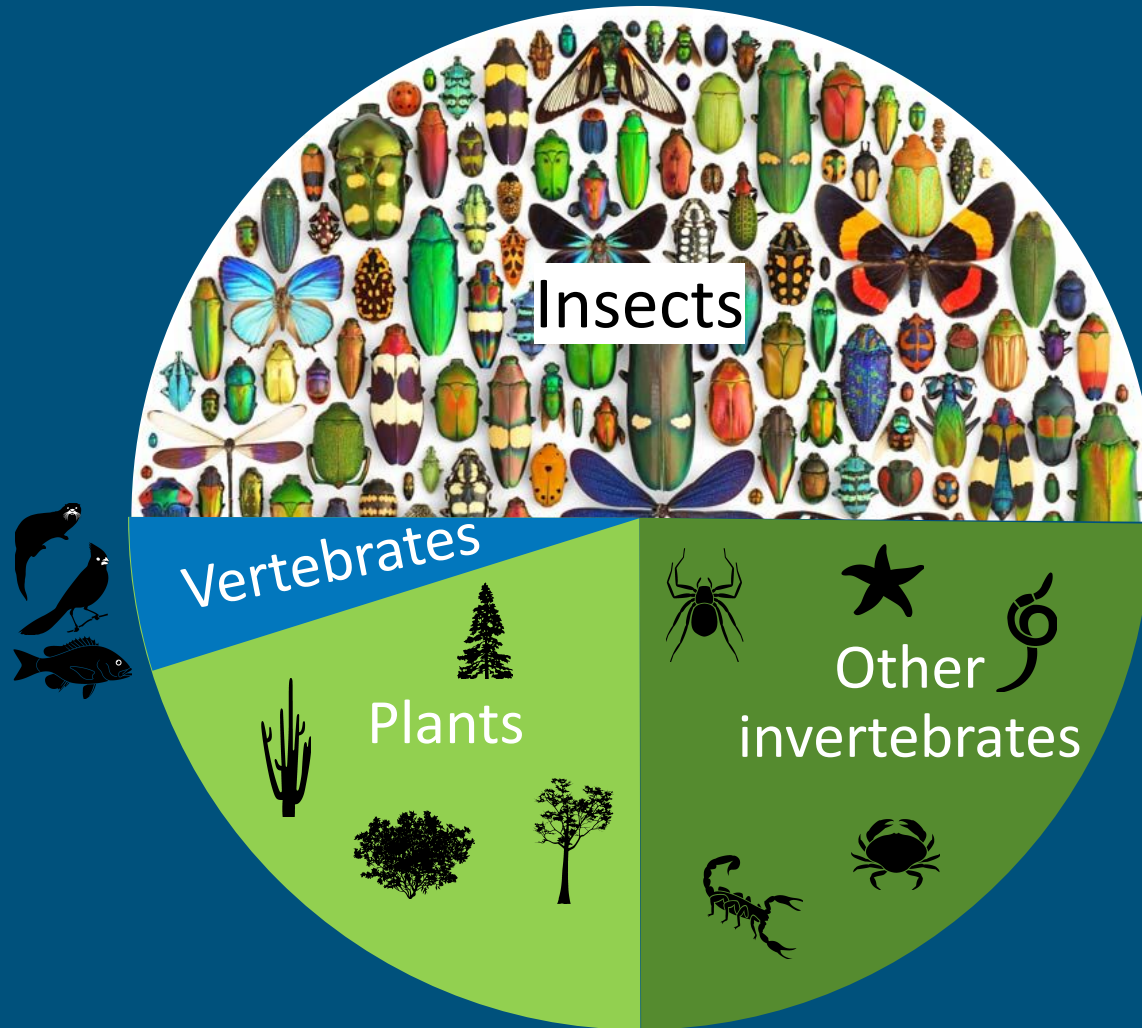




Insect Diversity

1 million species of insects described
Estimate 2.6 – 7.8 million



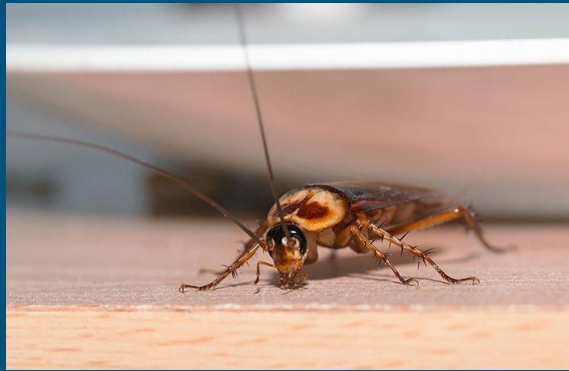
Enormous diversity and found in most environments !!!



On flowers!



In the ground!



Even in your house!



In water!



In the sky!

Insects are important elements in ecosystems

plant feeders

predators

decomposers

pollinators

vectors of disease

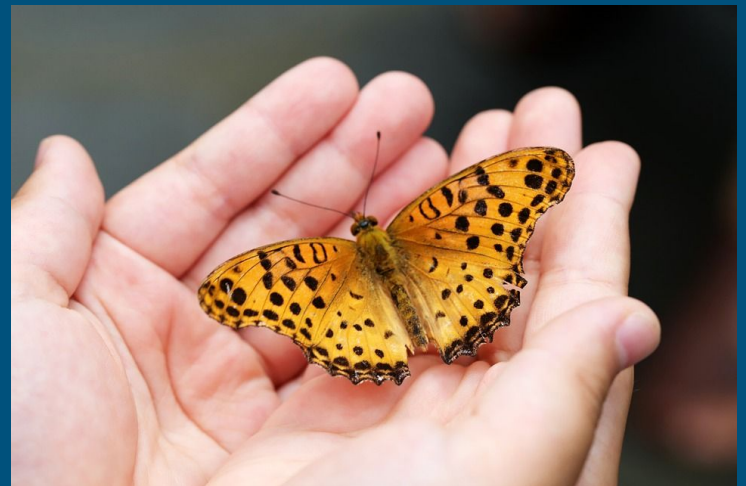
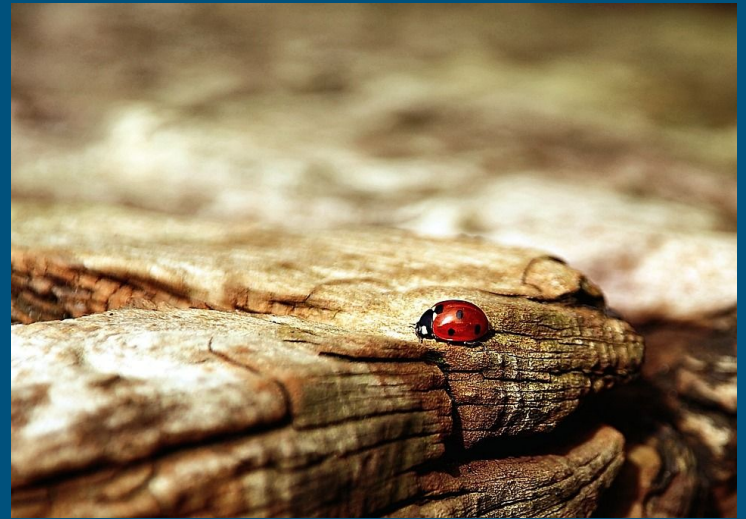
forensics



A world without insects?

Why are insects so abundant and diverse?

- Small
- Lots of young
- Short growing time
- Can survive lots of different conditions (weather changes, rainfall)
- Adaptable to changing environment
- Movement by flight



Let's go bug hunting!!!

- Field trip to catch a few insects.
- Let's look at
 - Body shapes/sizes/colors
 - Place you found them?
 - What were they doing?
- Draw what you see!

