

Objectives

- Introduce children to insects and other bugs they will find in the garden, their characteristics, and how they affect plants.
- Teach children to observe (rather than harm) living things in the garden and natural environment.

NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development

Goals Addressed:

APL-1, APL-2, APL-5, APL-7, APL-8

HPD-2, HPD-5, HPD-6

LDC-1, LDC-15

CD-1, CD-4, CD-14, CD-15

Materials

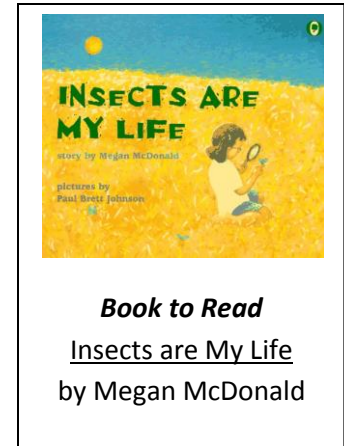
-Cucumber Soup by Vickie Krudwig

-Large container with a lid

-Paper

-Finger or washable paint

-Pencils or crayons



Activities

Garden Activity

Explain to children that they will be going on an insect expedition to see how many different insects and bugs they can spot in the garden. Explain that the most important part of the expedition is to be very gentle with the insects and collect them without harming them. Ask the children to explore the garden to find insects. Give them tips on finding insects (look under leaves, grass, and hay on the ground, look closely on plants and the underside of their leaves). When the children spot an insect they can call you over to help them carefully put the bug into the container with a lid. Once the class has collected 5-10 insects call them all over to look at and try to identify the insects.

Thumbprint Insects

With finger or washable paints, ask the children to use their fingers to create the body (thorax) of different garden insects. Using a pencil or crayon, they can add the head, abdomen, antenna, legs, and wings.

