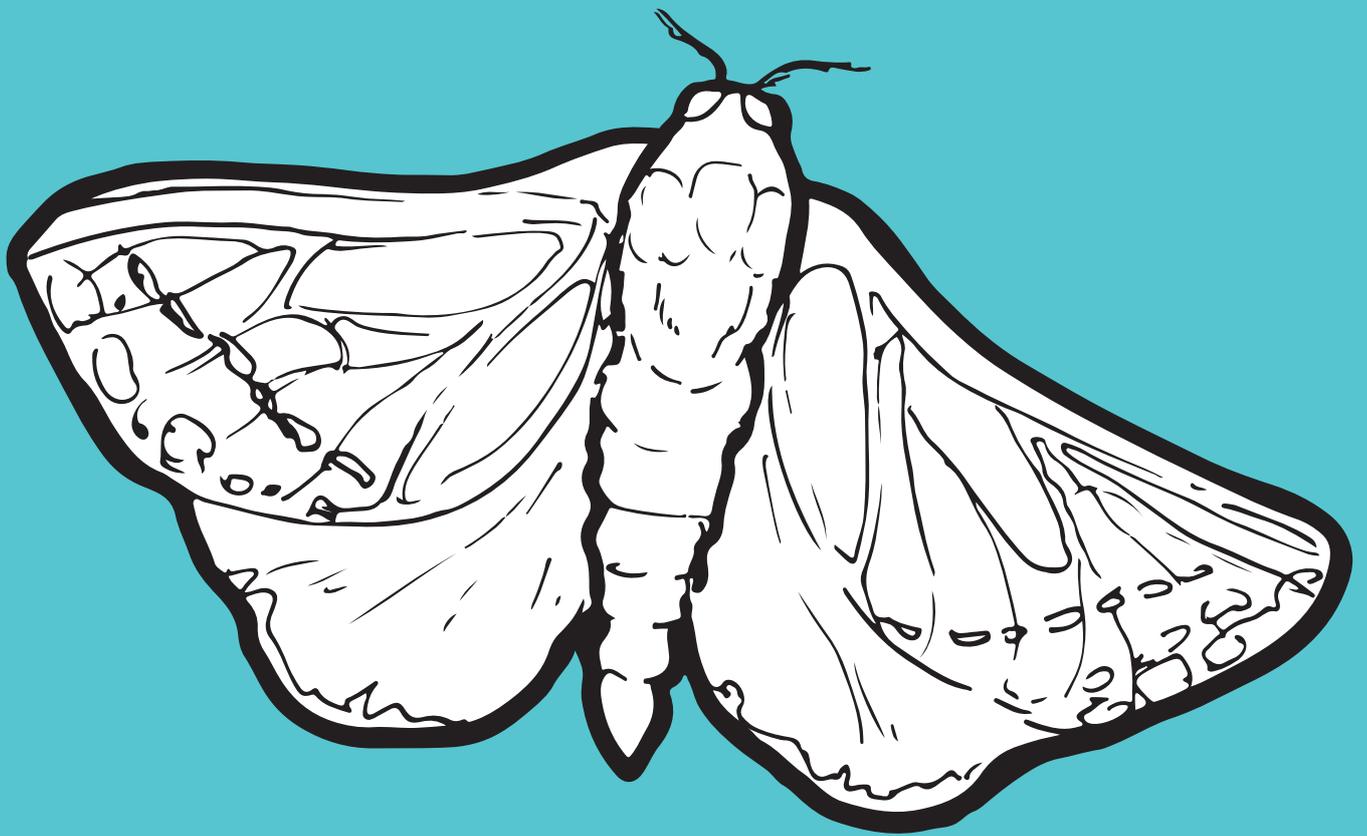


Auckland Zoo Education Pack

Primary



Theme: Bugs

Zoo Lesson plan

Theme: Primary (ages 5-11) **BUGS**

What will I learn: We share our world with a variety of important insects that are sometimes found in our gardens.

Inspire

Find out about some of our special bugs here at Auckland Zoo!

You can learn about the [bizarre and beautiful stick insects](#), the [strangely beautiful spiders](#), or a [very special insect!](#)

Listen to a story about [ants](#).

Learn a new māori song about a butterfly [Pūrerehua](#).

Create

Make a [weta hotel](#) for your locals

Make a [butterfly](#) to hang up in the window, you could even work with others to create a chain of butterflies!

Solve the **Bug Riddles** and have a go at making your own to share with family (resource attached).

Create some [natural insect artwork](#) using materials found in your backyard or neighbourhood. Are you an expert? Create a native insect and then research some interesting facts to share along with your creative artwork photo.

Explore

What bugs can you find at home? Use our [Backyard Bug Hunt](#) to get you started.

After watching this video all about [a simple way to tell insects apart](#) try grouping the bugs you find. Scientists call this classification.

Learn some bug words and solve our [Bugs Wordfind](#) (you could even race someone else!). Do you know them all? Look them up! Choose one of your new words to illustrate.

Reflect

Watch this video [Should we eat bugs?](#) Reflect on the reasons for eating them, and whether you would ever try a meal made of bugs!

Insects provide ecosystem services (jobs that they help to facilitate as part of the natural cycles on Earth). What are the ways in which insects provide benefits for humans? Watch this video on [Why insects are so important for some ideas](#). Think about pollination, food webs, pest control – can you think of any others?

Act

Take a [garden insect census](#) to find out what bugs and beetles you have in your backyard. Try using some of the different investigation techniques suggested for more variety.

Curriculum links:

Lessons include a range of aspects from the main strands of the NZ Curriculum English, the arts, health and physical education, learning languages, mathematics and statistics, science, social science and technology. They also consider the Key Competencies Thinking, Using language, symbols and text, Managing self, Relating to others, Participating and communicating.

Auckland Zoo
Wildlife conservation science at work

Bug Riddles

Can you solve these bug riddles?

1

My name means deadly night stinger
I belong right here you see
I'm endemic to New Zealand
My webs can look quite messy
Through strong silk and careful planning
I'll have other bugs for tea!

2

We use our giant wings
to fly around by night
Native to New Zealand
Out while the moon is bright
Together we'll take down
The tallest Puriri tree
Our complex life cycle
Is split up into three
Grub, then Pupa and then
we're free!

3

I hatch out from an egg
Rotten wood is where I stay
Hiding under cover
As more and more I weigh
For a kiwi I might make
A lovely little snack
Their long beak can reach me
Even hiding so far back

4

We won't win any races
For the speediest bug around
But I have my spiral shell
Where different colours can be found
I'm among the largest in the world
But still threatened you see
If my forests are disappearing
Then you'll no longer find me

5

Out of over 70 species
I'm the biggest of them all
Heavier than a sparrow
So big I have to crawl
I survived hiding on islands
Vulnerable to pests
But Auckland Zoo has helped
Return numbers to
their best

Your Challenge

Have a try making your own "Who am I" riddles – you could research different bugs to find facts to include and play around with wording to make it rhyme for an extra challenge.

Share these riddles at home with your whānau, or with us!
See if others can guess which bug your riddles are about.