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## *Meadow Magic*

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*Let's look for bugs*



We see insects everywhere we look. They are on the ground, on plants and in the sky. There are over 900,000 known species.

### **MAKE IT FUN:**

#### **What do ants eat?**

##### **THINGS YOU'LL NEED:**

Small samples of food such as crackers, apple pieces, sugar, Cheese

Place the small pieces of food on the paper plate

1. Place it on the ground
2. After waiting an hour, come back and see which foods the ants are crawling on – if the samples are really small, they may be carrying them away!

# Catching Bugs

## THINGS YOU'LL NEED:

Small net

Container for holding the insects

A magnifying glass

Take a walk through a field or meadow and watch for insects on the plants around you

Bugs are easy to miss if you're walking too fast. Take it slow and watch for anything that moves.

Once you spot an insect quietly step towards the plant and swoop with your net

Gently remove it from the net into your container so you can look at it more carefully with your magnifying glass

If you want, draw a picture of what you've found

**RELEASE IT BACK TO ITS HOME**



# MAKE A SEED BOMB



## THINGS YOU'LL NEED:

- Meadow flower seeds or seeds collected from a field.
- Peat-free compost.
- Water.
- Clay soil
- Bowl

1. In a bowl, mix together 1 cup of seeds with 5 cups of compost and 2-3 cups of clay soil
2. Slowly mix in water with your hands until everything sticks together.
3. Roll the mixture into firm balls.
4. Leave the balls to dry in a sunny spot.
5. Plant your seed bombs by throwing them at bare spots in your yard
6. Be patient and wait to see what grows

## Meadow Do Not Pick Scavenger Hunt

<p><b>A Fern</b></p> 	<p><b>A tree standing alone</b></p> 	<p><b>A Cloud</b></p> 
<p><b>A Bird Flying</b></p> 	<p><b>Butterflies go to flowers to get nectar. Part of their mouth is like a tube. They use it like a straw to suck the nectar out of the flower</b></p> 	<p><b>Butterfly</b></p> 
<p><b>Milkweed Plant</b></p> 	<p><b>THORNCRAG</b></p> 	<p><b>A Yellow Flower</b></p> 
<p><b>Ant</b></p> 	<p><b>Bird Singing</b></p> 	<p><b>Listen for three different sounds while walking in a meadow</b></p>

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

*Q: How far can a butterfly fly?*

*A: Some butterflies, like birds fly south for hundreds of miles when the weather is cold*

*Q: How do wasps make their nest?*

*A: Some wasps bite off dead wood and mix it with saliva to make a paste. Flying back and forth from the dead wood, they add a little paste to the nest each time.*

*Q: Why do some beetles have long feelers?*

*A: Some beetles cannot see very well so they use their feelers to learn about the world around them. The feelers help them not to run into things. Insects with short feelers generally have good eyesight.*

*Q: What do grasshoppers eat?*

*A: Grasshoppers often can be found in dry, open places like meadows where there is a lot of grass, flowers and dead insects to eat.*

***These pages have been created by the Stanton Bird Club Lewiston, ME***