



The 4-H Entomology Project gives young people a chance to learn about insects and their role in the environment, as well as their interactions with man, animals, and plants. Junior and Senior 4-Hers can compete in insect identification contests, visual presentations, record keeping, and by exhibiting insect collections.

Agents are encouraged to organize Bug Clubs and take advantage of the activities in *The Gloworm* newsletter.

4-H Thrive

Positive Youth Development

Developing Competence

Adults create environments where youth can develop competence in their chosen project area.

Building Confidence

Youth build confidence as they learn to think for themselves, build mastery, and are recognized for their efforts.

Nurturing Caring

Adults nurture a caring environment where mutual trust between youth and adults is established. Caring relationships with adults are key to resilient youth.

Finding Connection

Youth build solid connections which are critical to their well-being.

Forming Character

Create a community where youth play an active role in developing their character.

Determining Contribution

Youth actively contribute to their clubs and communities.

***Mississippi State University is
an equal opportunity
institution.***

Workshop Ideas

- Entomology Camp
- Establish/maintain Community Butterfly Garden
- See *The Gloworm* for Bug Club Activities or individual activities

Tour/Field Trip Ideas

- Collecting trips for county groups
- Mississippi Entomological Museum and Arthropod Zoo at MSU.
- Callaway Gardens Day Butterfly Center (Pine Mountain, GA)
- Audubon Insectarium (New Orleans)
- Jackson Zoo (contact their Education Department for about their programs)
- Bugfest at the MSU Crosby Arboretum (every September)

Competitive Activities

Juniors and Seniors:

Insect Identification
Visual Presentation
Insect Collections

OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND COUNTY, DISTRICT AND STATE LEVELS

- National Congress
- 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest (January deadline. Watch for notices in *The Gloworm*)
- Entomology Photo Contest and Art Salon (October deadline. Watch for notices in *The Gloworm*)

Expand your experiences!



Junior & Senior Insect Collections

The contest consists of: General Insect Collection

Collections must be displayed in the standard insect box (Cornell drawer size, 19 in. x 16.5 in. x 3 in.). Insect specimens must be mounted on special insect pins. See Extension Publication 317, Introduction to Entomology for more information about making insect collections and Information Sheet 653 – Standard 4-H Display Box, for instructions for making an insect box. (Both publications are available online at: http://msucares.com/4h_Youth/4hentomology/pubs.html.)

Each box should be identified by name and county, and number of orders and total number of specimens in collection. This information should be visible on a strip of masking tape attached to the top edge of the box.

Information:

1. There is no limit to the number of individuals who may submit insect collections from each county in the district and state contests, but individuals who have placed first in their age category should not compete in that same age category the following year. Individuals who placed first in their district.
2. All collections will be awarded blue, red or white ribbons.
3. All insect collections that were entered in district or state contest and have received a blue ribbon are eligible to be exhibited at the State Fair.

Resources

1. Publication 317 - 4-H Introduction to Entomology
2. 4-H Entomology Manual *(available from County Extension Agent or Extension Specialist)*
3. Publication 2592 - 4-H Insect Identification Study Guide for Junior 4-Hers Publication
4. 2591 - 4-H Insect Identification Study Guide for Senior 4-Hers
5. Information Sheet 653 - Collecting Insects: Standard 4-H Display Box
6. Extension publications available at: http://msucares.com/4h_Youth/4hentomology/pubs.html
7. *The Glowworm* – newsletter geared toward MSU Bug and Plant Campers, Bug Clubs, and adults who work with youth. Archives available at <http://msucares.com/newsletters/pests/glowworm/index.html>
8. *Teaming with Insects* – National 4-H curriculum for grades 3–5, 6–8, and 9–12, plus facilitator's manual. Available at <http://www.4-h.org/resource-library/curriculum/4-h-teaming-with-insects/>
9. **Supplementary** Standard 4-H display box and insect pins available for purchase from MSU Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Entomology, and Plant Pathology Department.



Junior Age Level (8-13)

MISCELLANEOUS: JUNIOR LEVEL INSECT IDENTIFICATION

Study guide available at: http://msucare.com/4h_Youth/4hentomology/pubs.html

The contest consists of two parts:

Part 1: Insect Identification (15 to 30 specimens) See appropriate study guide for list of 50 insects and arachnids to know Specimens may be pinned, mounted, preserved in alcohol, or presented as photos or images.	60 points
Part 2: Written Quiz See appropriate study guide	40 points
TOTAL	100 points

Junior Information: Pre-requisite for district contest. Must have placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in a county contest. Each contestant should be prepared to identify insect specimens and to answer questions about the 50 insects listed in the 4-H Insect Identification Study Guide for Junior 4-Hers or to answer other general questions about insects and entomology as indicated in the study guide.

Visual Presentation:

	10-11 Year Old Junior	12-13 Year Old Junior	14-18 Year Old Senior
Entomology	X	X	

Senior Age Level (14-18)

MISCELLANEOUS: SENIOR LEVEL INSECT IDENTIFICATION

Study guide available at: http://msucares.com/4h_Youth/4hentomology/pubs.html

Judging: The contest consists of two parts:

Part 1: Insect Identification (15 to 30 specimens) See appropriate study guide for list of 100 insects and arachnids to know Specimens may be pinned, mounted, preserved in alcohol, or presented as photos or images.	60 points
Part 2: Written Quiz See appropriate study guide	40 points
TOTAL	100 points

SENIOR INFORMATION: Each contestant should be prepared to identify specimens of the 100 insects and related arthropods listed in the study guide by order or common name and to answer questions about the 100 insects listed in the 4-H Insect Identification Study Guide for Senior 4-Hers or to answer other general questions about insects and entomology as indicated in the study guide.

Visual Presentation:

	10-11 Year Old Junior	12-13 Year Old Junior	14-18 Year Old Senior
Entomology			X