

Snug as a Bug: Exploring Insects at Home

Insects are all around us!



Check out [this activity book on Texas insects](#), and this [bilingual activity guide](#) on exploring ants as a family!*



Here's [how to start a butterfly garden](#) at home, or at [your local community garden!](#)



All bugs play a role in nature, but some are especially helpful-- [click here to read how to attract beneficial insects.*](#)



Not ready to flex your green thumb? [Practice making virtual bug habitats with PBS' Elinor Wonders Why!](#)



Order your free [Bee a Friend to Pollinators](#) booklet.



Don't forget to check your local library for [books and DVDs](#) on insects, too! *(English and Spanish available)*

Bugging Out & About: Insects in the Wild

How to safely learn about insects in their natural habitats!



Insects have amazing defense mechanisms and live in neat places. [Prepare for your excursion](#) by reading how to be safe with plants, insects, spiders, and other wildlife you may see!



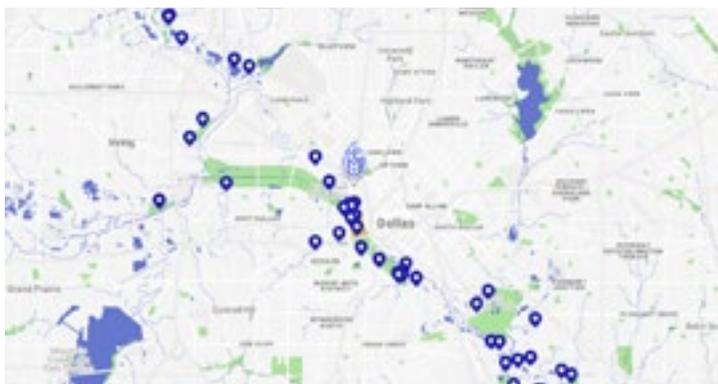
It's always a good time to look for bugs! [Click here for ideas on what to put in your outdoor insect exploration kit.](#)



Insects move fast, and some can fly. Try [making your own bug net](#) (or a [bug pooter!](#)) out of items around your house.



You'll help insects do their jobs if you treat them gently with respect and release them back into their environment. Take a photo or [keep a field journal](#) to remember them!



Check out our map of [places along the Trinity River](#) where you can look for insects! *(Also available in Spanish)*

Did you know?

Insects make up 80% of species on earth.

Scientists estimate that we know of only half of the total existing insect species!

Un-bee-lievable! Identifying Your Insects

It's never been easier to learn about the bugs you find!



Use this [Insect Inspection Data Sheet](#) to get started observing insects.*



The [Seek](#) app is an easy way to identify wildlife and participate in fun challenges!

- You can find a list of [common insects here](#), and [a more comprehensive list here](#).
- Our Master Naturalist friends recommend [these guidebooks on insects, moths and butterflies, fireflies, and more!](#)

Bug Buddies: Join the Citizen Science Community & Share What You Find!

You can help scientists around the world by logging your observations and sharing resources with fellow nature enthusiasts!



The [iNaturalist](#) app allows you to identify species, post where you found it, and work with others to identify your finds.



You can help monarch butterflies by [tracking your sightings through Journey North](#). *



Habitat preservation is an important part of insect conservation. You can help by [collecting milkweed seeds and sending them to Monarch Watch](#).

Insect Experts

Who Are They, and How Can You Become One?



Visit Texas Discovery Gardens to meet entomologist John Watts (Special Deal: [buy any membership](#) and get 6 free tickets to the State Fair!)*



Meet Doctor Buggs and his crew of [Atlas Moths](#), the world's largest moth.



Learn more about how humans and insects interact from Dr. Maya Evenden through [a free Bugs 101 course!](#) (*Spanish subtitles available*)



Curious about local wildlife, big and small? Get to know [Brett Johnson, Urban Biologist for Dallas Parks & Recreation](#). You can [request him as a speaker](#) for your next event!



Become a [Volunteer Entomology Specialist](#) through Texas Agrilife Extension. Registration opens in the spring!

Did you know?

There are almost as many species of ants as there are species of birds!

Pollinators like honeybees benefit more than \$20,000,000,000 in crops each year.

Insects? More like Win-sects!



Complete any two activities with a blue “bug” icon, and email info@trinityparkconservancy.org by September 30, 2021 to let us know which ones you did-- you'll be entered to win a raffle prize. Send a photo, drawing, or scan of your completed project to double your chances of winning!

You could win free outdoor gear, Trinity Park Conservancy swag, or even a Get Out & Explore free weekend rental from Subaru!



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Special thanks to
Methodist Dallas Medical Center, Sewell Subaru, and REI Dallas
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This guide is part of Insectageddon, a day-long festival inspired by artist Cecilia Vicuña in collaboration with partner sites around the world through the High Line's month-long Celebrating Insects on the High Line horticulture celebration. Insectageddon seeks to both reflect on and raise awareness for our interconnectedness with the insect world. Trinity Park Conservancy is a member of the High Line Network, a multi-national collaborative of projects which transform underutilized infrastructure into new urban landscapes.

Trinity Park Conservancy champions the transformation of the Trinity River to become the heart of Dallas. With the community, we will design public spaces that unite us, enrich people's lives through access to nature, create economic development opportunities, and inspire protection for the river ecosystems in this shared natural treasure.

* Photos courtesy of Texas Discovery Gardens

Join in September and get six free tickets to the State Fair! Learn more at www.txgd.org