



# BUG WORLD

## A THINKING TOUR

Grades K-3

**Note to teacher or chaperone:** This activity is designed for an adult to do with small groups of students. Many of these questions can be answered by observing the arthropods or by reading the notebook pages posted by the exhibits. Before you begin, discuss the word arthropod with you students, including its meaning (animals with a hard exoskeleton and jointed appendages) and the different types of arthropods (insects, spiders, millipedes, centipedes and crustaceans).

1. List three arthropods found in “Bug World” that eat other bugs.
2. List at least three arthropods found in “Bug World” that eat decaying plant or animal matter (scavengers).
3. List one species of herbivorous (plant-eating) arthropod found in “Bug World”.
4. List two insect species in “Bug World” that feed on nectar.
5. Find one arthropod that is well-camouflaged (blends in with its surroundings).

6. Find one arthropod that stands out from its surroundings (is brightly colored).
7. Find two species that seem to spend their time on the floor of their exhibit.
8. Find two species that seem to spend their time climbing on branches, on the walls of their exhibit, or in a web.
9. Find two arthropods that can swim.
10. Find an arthropod that produces a strong scent to defend itself.



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### KEY

1. List three arthropods found in “Bug World” that eat other bugs.

- Cross orbweaver
- Western horse lubber
- Green lynx spider
- Giant vinegaroon
- Giant water bug
- Sunburst diving beetle
- White-eyed assassin bug
- Peruvian orange-striped bird eater
- Golden orbweaver
- Red swamp crayfish

2. List as least three arthropods found in “Bug World” that eat decaying plant or animal matter (scavengers).

- Sowbugs
- Yellow-spotted millipede
- American cockroach
- Western horse lubber
- Darkling beetle
- Flamboyant flower beetle (larva)
- Polyphemus flower beetle (larva)
- Pacific dampwood termite
- Red swamp crayfish

3. List one species of herbivorous (plant-eating) arthropod found in “Bug World”.

- Leaf insect

4. List two insect species in “Bug World” that feed on nectar.

- Flamboyant flower beetle (adult)
- Polyphemus flower beetle (adult)

5. Find one arthropod that is well-camouflaged (blends in with its surroundings).

- Sowbug
- Cross orbweaver
- American cockroach
- Darkling beetle
- Green lynx spider
- Giant vinegaroon
- Giant water bug
- Peruvian orange-striped bird eater
- Leaf insect
- Pacific dampwood termite

6. Find one arthropod that stands out from its surroundings (is brightly colored).

Yellow-spotted millipede  
Western horse lubber  
Sunburst diving beetle  
White-eyed assassin bug  
Flamboyant flower beetle  
Polyphemus flower beetle  
Golden orbweaver  
Red swamp crayfish

7. Find two species that seem to spend their time on the floor of their exhibit.

Sowbug  
Yellow-spotted millipede  
Darkling beetle  
Giant vinegaroon  
Peruvian orange-striped bird eater

8. Find two species that seem to spend their time climbing on branches, on the walls of their exhibit, or in a web.

Cross orbweaver  
American cockroach  
Western horse lubber  
Green lynx spider  
White-eyed assassin bug  
Flamboyant flower beetle  
Polyphemus flower beetle  
Golden orbweaver  
Leaf insect  
Pacific dampwood termite

9. Find two arthropods that can swim.

Giant water bug  
Sunburst diving beetle  
Red swamp crayfish

10. Find an arthropod that can produce a strong scent to defend itself.

Darkling beetle  
Giant vinegaroon

**The species listed are current as of March 2017. The zoo's collection is subject to change.**