

Teacher Update Course: An Introduction to the Study of Insects

Estimates place the number of insect species somewhere between ten and thirty million, and it is therefore not astonishing that they are the most diverse group of animals on earth. What is astonishing, however, is the fact that people know so little about these common creatures, creatures they encounter more frequently than any other kind of animal. Insects are therefore an inexpensive and easily obtained resource that can be readily incorporated into the curriculum. This course offers teachers an introduction to the study of insects with an emphasis on the identification, ecology and behavior of the major insect groups. It will be a mix of lecture and laboratory format as well as field trips. Participants will learn techniques for collecting, preserving and identifying insects, and each participant will also make a small insect collection. Methods for the incorporation of insects into the curriculum, both lecture and laboratory, will be discussed.

Where: The College of William and Mary, 13 Millington Hall (Biology)
When: Dates: Monday June 28 – Friday July 2, 2004
Time: 10:00 – 12:00, 1:00-4:00
Instructor: Dr. Norman Fashing
Eligibility: Middle and High School Science Teachers
Credit: One graduate biology credit

Books:

Bugs in the System: Insects and Their Impact on Human Affairs (Helix Books)
by May R. Berenbaum

Butterflies and Moths : A Golden Guide from St. Martin's Press
by Robert T. Mitchell (Author), Herbert S. Zim (Author), Andre Durenceau (Illustrator)

Spiders and Their Kin : A Golden Guide from St. Martin's Press
by Herbert W. Levi (Author), Lorna R. Levi (Author), Nicholas Strekalovsky (Illustrator)

Insect Appreciation
By Tom F. Turpin

A Field Guide to Insects
by Richard E. White (Author), Donald J. Borror (Author), Roger Tory Peterson (Editor)

National Audubon Society Field Guide to Insects and Spiders

Papers

Annual Review of Entomology

January 1997, Vol. 42, pp. 269-289

Insects as teaching tools in primary and secondary education.

By Robert W. Matthews, Lynda R. Flage, and and Janice R. Matthews