

homeschool

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Introduction/Instructions

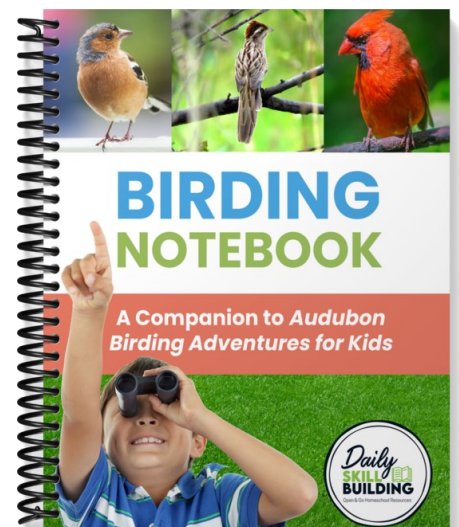
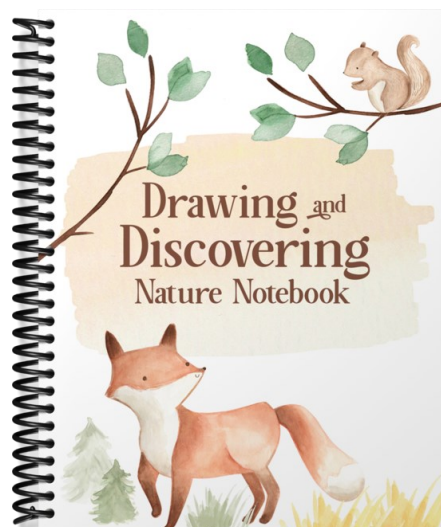
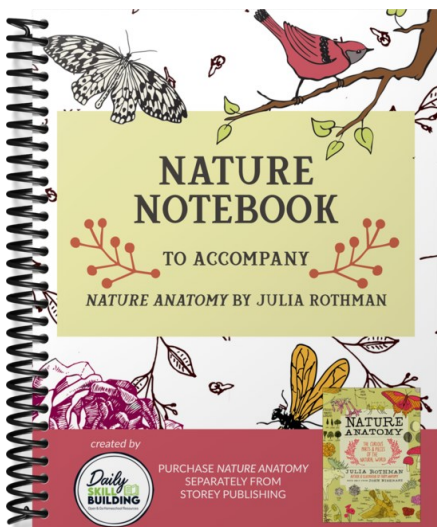
The Insect Nature Cards are designed for double-sided printing. If your printer does not have duplex printing options, simply flip the page over and print the facts or the blank lines on the back of the insect cards. You may wish to laminate them for durability.

Nature Resources You May Enjoy

[Nature Notebook](#): In the *Nature Notebook*, students will use a combination of written narration, drawing, and labeling alongside *Nature Anatomy–The Curious Parts and Pieces of the Natural World* by Julia Rothman (sold separately) to learn all about the Earth, plants, animals, and much more.

[Drawing and Discovering Nature Notebook](#): Do you have kids who are fascinated by science and nature? Learn all about habitats, ecosystems, plants, trees, animals, birds, insects, amphibians, plant and animal classification, food chains and webs, and much more with our nature notebook. The *Drawing and Discovering Nature Notebook* is a companion notebooking journal to *Curiositree: Natural World* (sold separately).

[Birding Notebook](#): Are you ready to learn about birds? Using the *Birding Notebook* alongside *Audubon Birding Adventures For Kids* (sold separately), you will learn about 25 birds as well as their habitats, beaks, feathers, and much more. Document your birding activities for your notebook and portfolio and use the journal pages for a birdwalk.

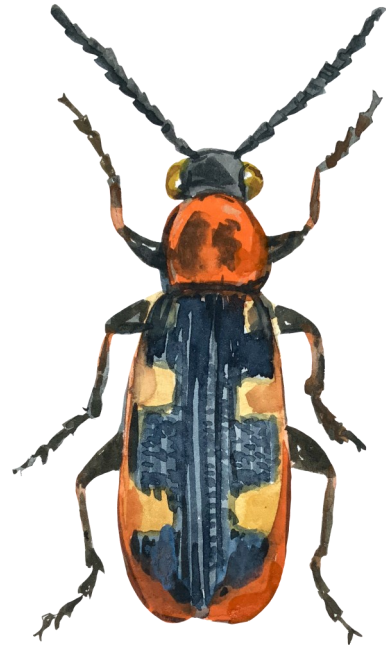


Ant



Hymenoptera (order); Formicidae (family)

Asparagus Beetle



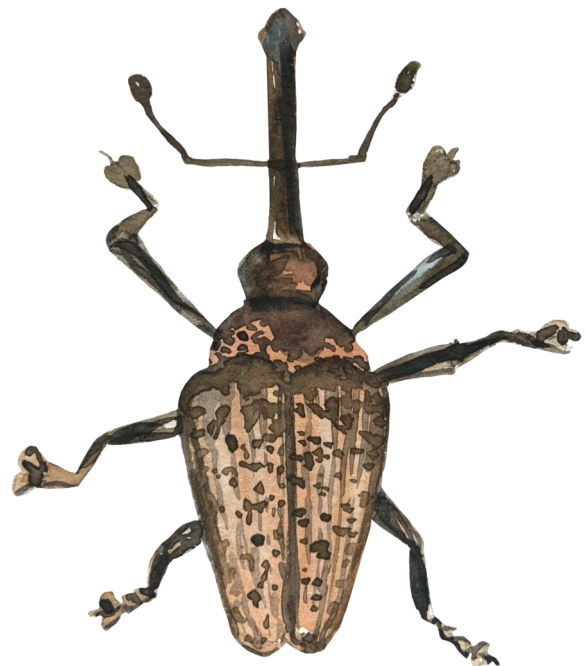
Crioceris (genus) or *Lema* (genus)

Blue Butterfly



Polyommatae (subfamily)

Boll Weevil



Anthonomus grandis

Asparagus Beetle

Scientific name: *Crioceris* (genus) or *Lema* (genus)

Size: about .3 inches (7 mm) long

Main colors: red, yellow, black

Interesting facts: part of the leaf beetle family; dangerous crop pest brought to North America from Europe

Ant

Scientific name: Hymenoptera (order); Formicidae (family)

Size: .04 inch-1 inch (.01 cm-2.5 cm) long; some species are longer

Main colors: black, brown, red, or yellow; other colors depending on species

Interesting facts: called "social insects" because their survival depends on living in colonies; more than 10,000 species of ants exist; live almost everywhere in the world except in the extreme cold

Boll Weevil

Scientific name: *Anthonomus grandis*

Size: .25 inches (6 mm) long

Main colors: gray or black

Interesting facts: destroyed cotton crops in the United States for decades after being introduced to the country from Mexico in the 1890s

Blue Butterfly

Scientific name: Polyommatainae (subfamily)

Size: wingspan .75-1.5 inches (18-38 mm); smallest has a wingspan of less than .47 inches (12 mm)

Main colors: blue; some are white or brown

Interesting facts: the larvae of some blue butterflies secrete honeydew, a sweet substance that ants enjoy

Bombardier Beetle



Brachinus (genus)

Bumble Bee



Bombus (genus)

Colorado Potato Beetle



Leptinotarsa decemlineata

Dragonfly



Anisoptera (suborder)

Bumble Bee

Scientific name: *Bombus* (genus)

Size: queens are the longest and average .6-1 inch (16-25 mm) long

Main colors: black and yellow

Interesting facts: live almost everywhere in the world, including Antarctica; play an important role in pollinating plants and crops; use their long tongues to get nectar from flowers

Bombardier Beetle

Scientific name: *Brachinus* (genus)

Size: .2-.5 inches (5-13 mm) long

Main colors: dark blue, black, blue green, and reddish yellow

Interesting facts: sprays dangerous chemicals at boiling-hot temperatures to defend itself from predators; this is a type of chemical defense

Dragonfly

Scientific name: Anisoptera (suborder)

Size: wingspans range from .8-6 inches (2-16 cm)

Main colors: wide range of colors, including metallic and pastel colors

Interesting facts: about 3,000 species have been identified; usually found near freshwater; have long bodies and two narrow pairs of wings; some have a field of vision of nearly 360 degrees; some migrate more than 3,730 miles (6,000 km)

Colorado Potato Beetle

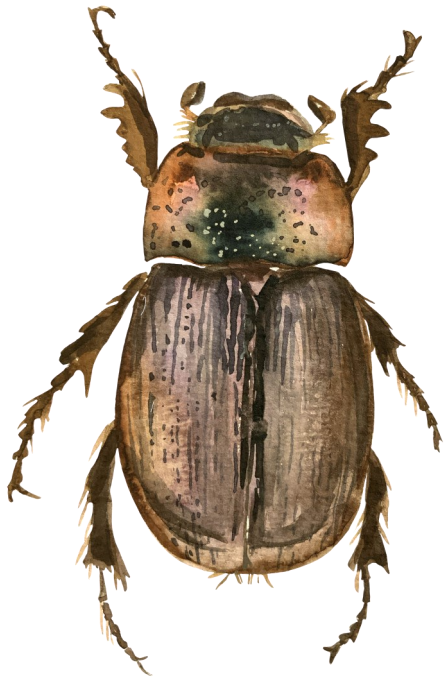
Scientific name: *Leptinotarsa decemlineata*

Size: .4 inches (10 mm) long

Main colors: orange-red or yellow

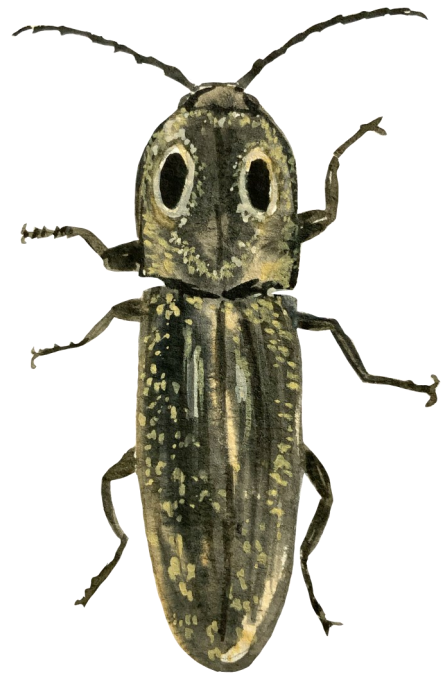
Interesting facts: leaf beetle; native to the Rocky Mountain region of North America; female lays eggs on the underside of potato leaves, which both the larvae and adults eat, destroying crops

Dung Beetle



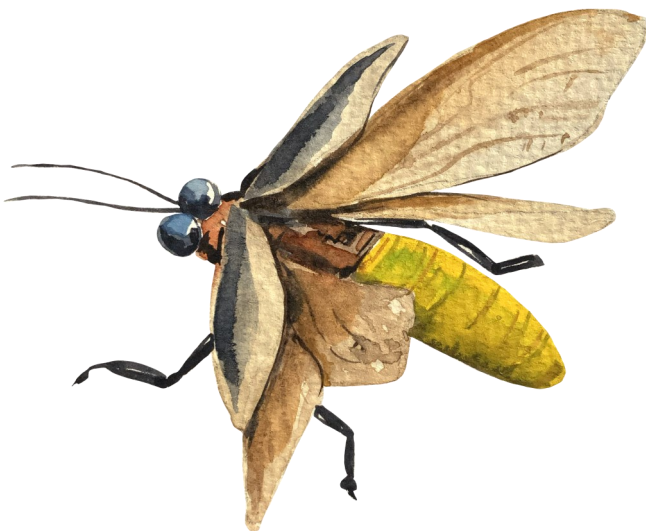
Scarabaeinae (subfamily)

Eyed Elator



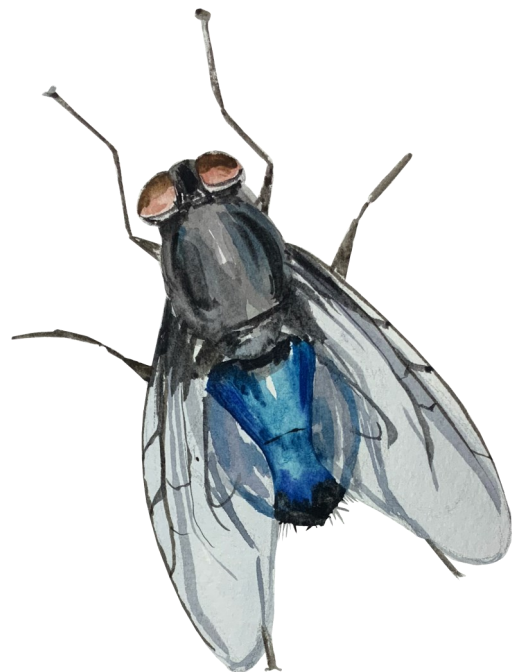
Alaus oculatus

Firefly



Lampyridae (family)

Fly



Diptera (order)

Eyed Elator

Scientific name: *Alaus oculatus*

Size: 1-1.8 inches (25-45 mm) long

Main colors: brown or black

Interesting facts: type of click beetle; click beetles play dead when touched by falling on their backs; in order to sit up, they have to bend their upper parts forward, hook a spine onto their abdomen, and then release the spine, making a clicking sound and sending them flying through the air

Dung Beetle

Scientific name: Scarabaeinae (subfamily)

Size: .2-1.2 inches (5-30 mm) long

Main colors: various dark colors; some are metallic in shade

Interesting facts: type of scarab beetle; found all over the world; were especially important in ancient Egypt; uses its head that is shaped something like a scoop and its antennae that are paddle-shaped to form dung into balls which it lays eggs in and eats

Fly

Scientific name: Diptera (order)

Size: varies widely, from .05-3 inches (1.3 mm-7.6 cm) long

Main colors: black, brown, gray, or yellow, though other colors are possible in some species

Interesting facts: more than 125,000 species have been identified, including various types of house flies, black flies, crane flies, fruit flies, gnats, horse flies, sand flies, tsetse flies, and warble flies; live in most of the world

Firefly

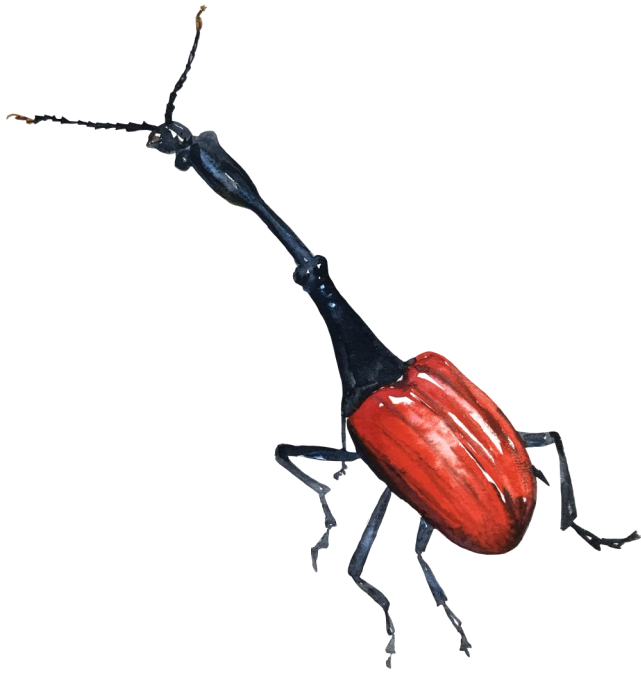
Scientific name: Lampyridae (family)

Size: up to 1 inch (5-25 mm) long

Main colors: dark brown or black often with orange or yellow markings

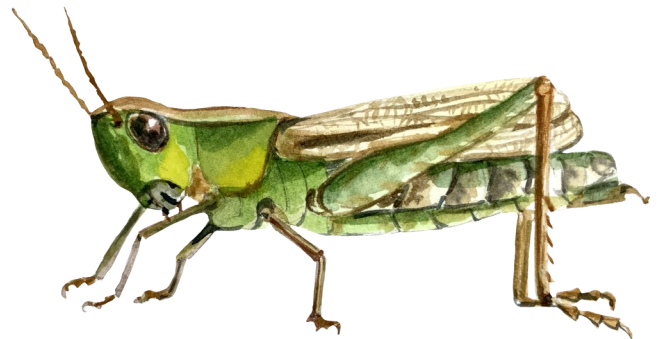
Interesting facts: more than 2,000 species are known; most live in tropical or temperate regions on all continents except Antarctica; known for the light they produce with a special organ; also called lightning bugs

Giraffe Weevil



Trachelophorus giraffa

Grasshopper



Caelifera (suborder)

Hister Beetle



Histeridae (family)

Honey Bee



Apis mellifera (domestic honeybee)

Grasshopper

Scientific name: Caelifera (suborder)

Size: varies widely; some are as small as .39 inches (1 cm) long; others are as long as 4 inches (11 cm)

Main colors: green, olive, or brown; some have yellow or red markings

Interesting facts: jumping insects that are found in many places around the world including lowland tropical forests, semiarid regions, and grasslands; can jump around 20 times the length of its body

Giraffe Weevil

Scientific name: *Trachelophorus giraffa*

Size: a little less than 1 inch (2.5 cm) long

Main colors: black and red

Interesting facts: native to the African island nation of Madagascar; uses its long neck for building nests and fighting

Honey Bee

Scientific name: *Apis mellifera* (domestic honeybee)

Size: .5 inches (1.2 cm) long

Main colors: black, brown, orange, yellow

Interesting facts: social insect that lives in a nest or hive; known for its intricate pattern of movements that tell other bees where a food source can be found; produces honey

Hister Beetle

Scientific name: Histeridae (family)

Size: .02-.4 inches (.5-10 mm) long

Main colors: shiny black; other colors vary by species

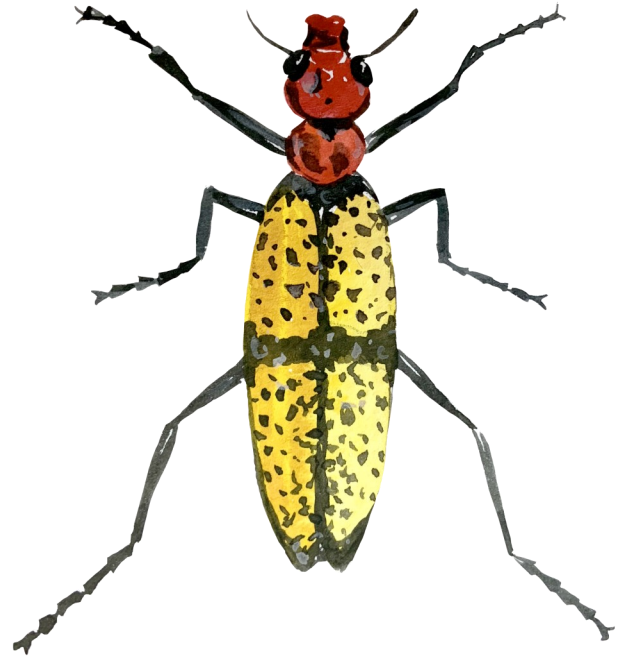
Interesting facts: about 3,900 known species; often live near carrion, fungi, or dung; some burrow in the sand; some live under bark in dead trees; also called clown beetles

Io Moth



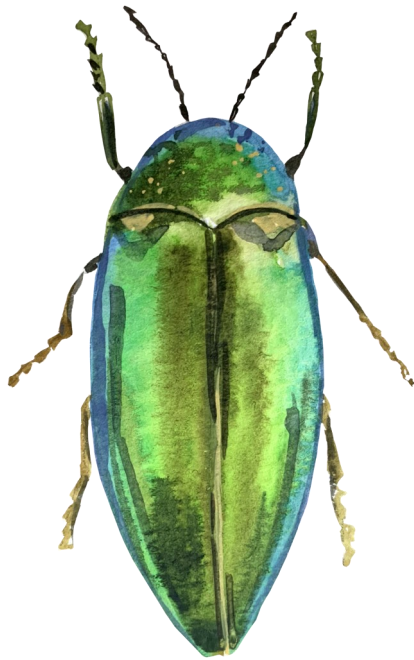
Automeris io

Iron Cross Blister Beetle



Tegrodera (genus)

Jewel Beetle



Buprestidae (family)

Ladybug



Coccinellidae (family)

Iron Cross Blister Beetle

Scientific name: *Tegrodera* (genus)

Size: .59-1.18 inches (15-30 mm) long

Main colors: yellow, red, and black

Interesting facts: sometimes called a soldier blister beetle; found in the United States and northwestern Mexico; feeds on *Eriastrum*, a flower usually called a woollystar

Io Moth

Scientific name: *Automeris io*

Size: wingspan 2.5-3.5 inches (63-88 mm)

Main colors: yellow (males); red-brown (females)

Interesting facts: have a large, dark eyespot on the hindwing; caterpillars are bright green, have red and white stripes, and have stinging hairs that can stick in your skin if you brush against one

Ladybug

Scientific name: Coccinellidae (family)

Size: .3-.4 inches (8-10 mm) long

Main colors: black, yellow, red, or reddish orange

Interesting facts: about 5,000 different species have been identified; number of spots varies by species; are helpful in controlling populations of aphids, scales, and mites

Jewel Beetle

Scientific name: Buprestidae (family)

Size: .12-3.15 inches (3-80 mm) long

Main colors: some have wing covers of metallic blue, copper, green, or black

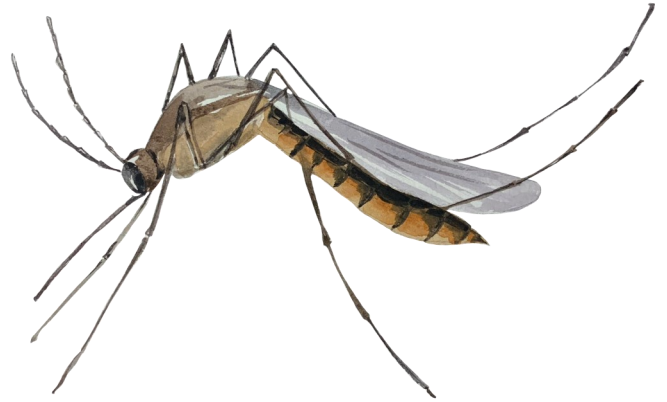
Interesting facts: about 15,000 different species have been identified; live in mostly tropical areas; some tunnel through wood and can damage trees; some tunnel through leaves

May Beetle



Phyllophaga (genus)

Mosquito



Culicidae (family)

Net-Winged Beetle



Lycidae (family)

Oil Beetle



Meloinae (subfamily)

Mosquito

Scientific name: Culicidae (family)

Size: .25-.5 inches (6-13 mm) long

Main colors: black, brown, gray, tan

Interesting facts: can be dangerous because they can transmit diseases including yellow fever, Zika fever, malaria, filariasis, and dengue; about 3,500 species have been identified; three of the approximately 35 genera they are divided into are particularly dangerous; lay eggs on the surface of water

May Beetle

Scientific name: *Phyllophaga* (genus)

Size: .5-1 inch (12-25 mm) long

Main colors: red-brown

Interesting facts: also called June beetle or June bug; around 300 species have been identified; are attracted to lights; eat flowers and other plants, including crops, which leads to much damage; eggs are buried in dirt; larvae feed on plant roots for as much as three years before completing their life cycle

Oil Beetle

Scientific name: Meloidae (subfamily)

Size: less than .25-2.5 inches (6-63 mm) long

Main colors: black or brown

Interesting facts: type of blister beetle, though they do not have hindwings like most other blister beetles; secrete an oily substance that tastes bad to predators

Net-Winged Beetle

Scientific name: Lycidae (family)

Size: .2-.5 inches (5-13 mm) long

Main colors: orange and black

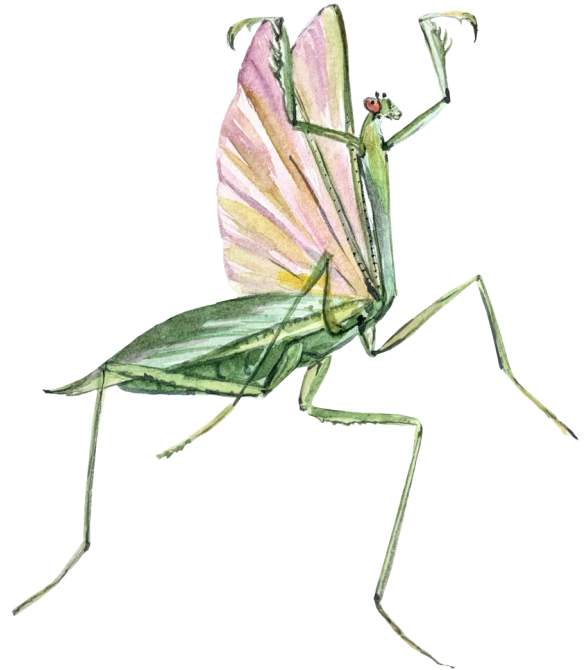
Interesting facts: around 2,800 species have been identified; live primarily in tropical regions; wing covers (elytra) have raised veins that form a network; eat plant juices or other insects

Pleasing Fungus Beetle



Erotylidae (family)

Praying Mantis



Mantidae (family)

Queen Butterfly



Danaus gilippus

Rhinoceros Beetle



Dynastinae (subfamily)

Praying Mantis

Scientific name: Mantidae (family)

Size: .5-6.5 inches (1-17 cm) long

Main colors: green or brown

Interesting facts: about 2,000 species have been identified; front legs have enlarged upper portions that the lower portions of the legs press into; grabs insects with spined front legs and holds them fast

Pleasing Fungus Beetle

Scientific name: Erotylidae (family)

Size: .1-.8 inches (3-20 mm) long

Main colors: orange, red, black; other colors vary by species

Interesting facts: about 3,500 species have been identified; live in mostly tropical areas and feed on fungi such as mushrooms; others bore into wood or plant stems

Rhinoceros Beetle

Scientific name: Dynastinae (subfamily)

Size: largest can grow to 7 inches (18 cm) long or longer

Main colors: black or greenish gray

Interesting facts: also called elephant beetle or unicorn beetle; over 300 species have been identified, including the Atlas beetle and the Hercules beetle; certain species are some of the largest beetles anywhere; males have hornlike structure

Queen Butterfly

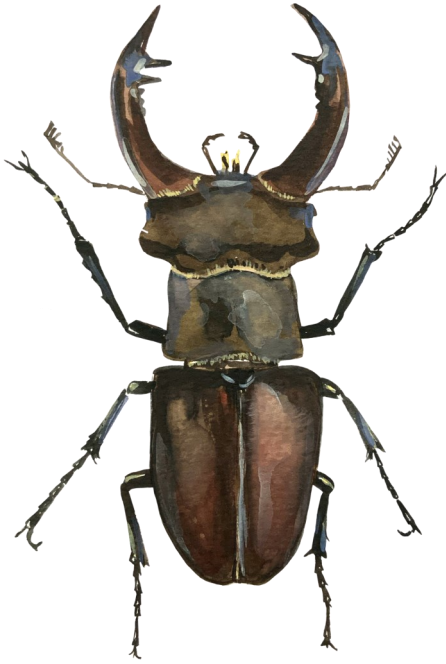
Scientific name: *Danaus gilippus*

Size: wingspan 2.8-3.5 inch (70-88 mm)

Main colors: orange, brown, reddish, black, white

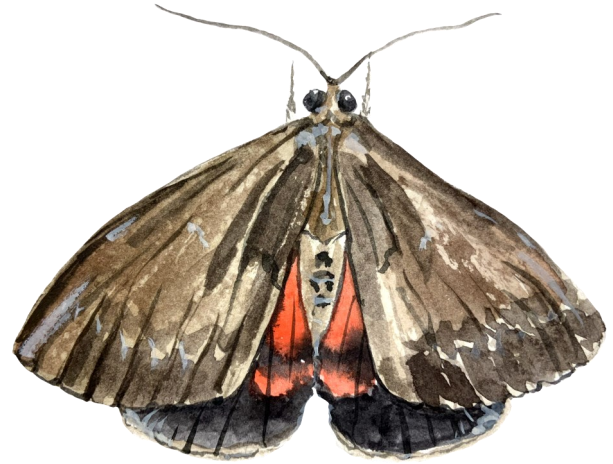
Interesting facts: as larvae, they eat milkweeds, which contain a poison; that poison stays in their systems and helps protect them from predators; lives in North and South America, Asia, and Africa

Stag Beetle



Lucanidae (family)

Straw Underwing



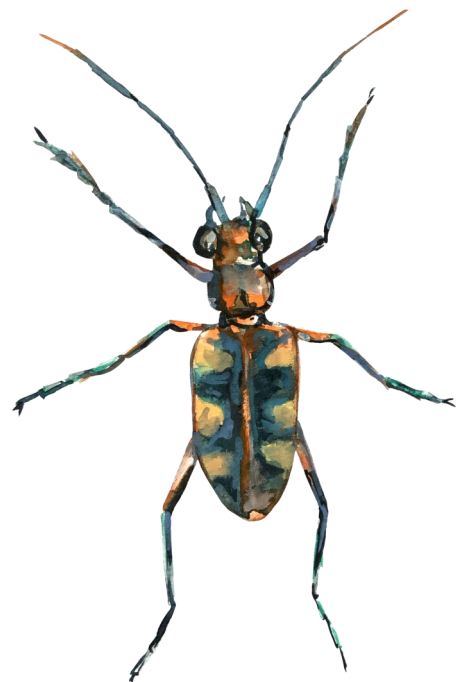
Thalpophila matura

Termite



Isoptera (order)

Tiger Beetle



Cicindelinae (subfamily)

Straw Underwing

Scientific name: *Thalpophila matura*

Size: wingspan 1.5-1.8 inches (38-46 mm)

Main colors: dark brown, pale brown, reddish, white, straw-colored, and black

Interesting facts: commonly found in North Africa and various parts of Europe; lives primarily in grasslands, parks, or in the edges of forests

Stag Beetle

Scientific name: Lucanidae (family)

Size: .33-1.67 inches (8-40 mm) long

Main colors: most are black or brown; a few are metallic colors

Interesting facts: around 900 species have been identified; also called pinching bugs; the jaws (mandibles) in males are very large and look like antlers

Tiger Beetle

Scientific name: Cicindelinae (subfamily)

Size: .4-.8 inches (10-20 mm) long

Main colors: blue, green, orange, scarlet

Interesting facts: more than 2,600 species have been identified; captures prey by waiting at the top of its burrow, grabbing them, and hooking itself to its burrow so it cannot be pulled out

Termite

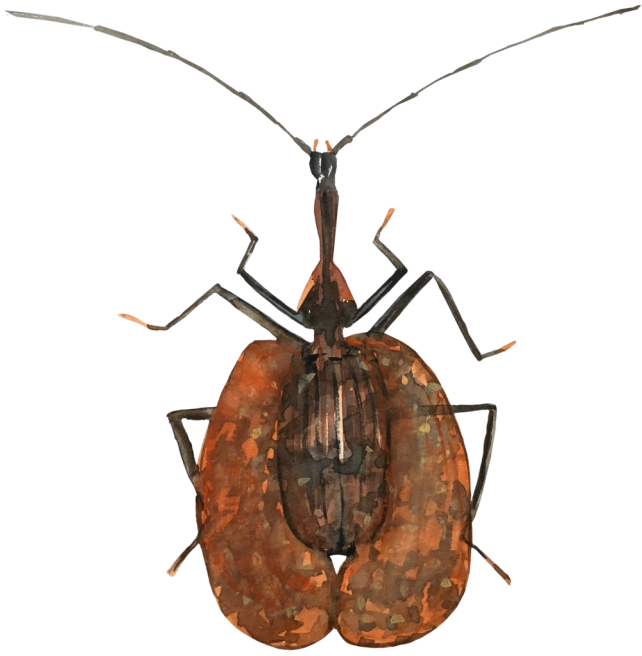
Scientific name: Isoptera (order)

Size: varies widely

Main colors: varies widely

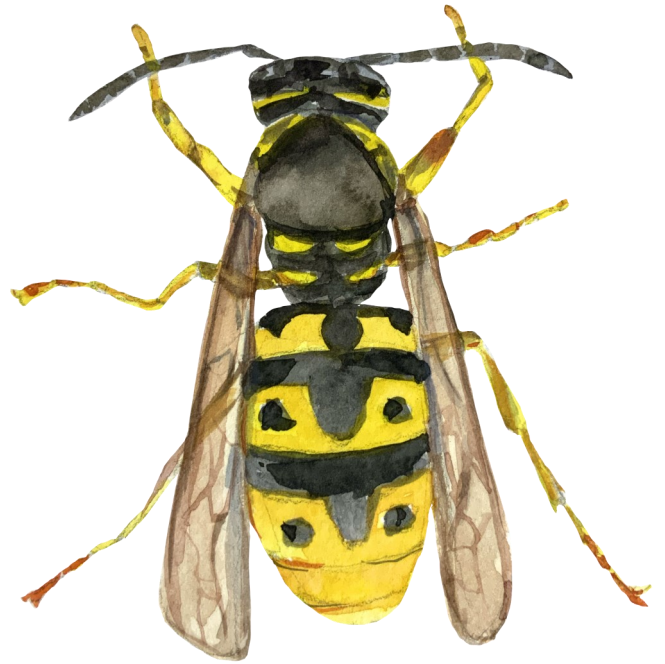
Interesting facts: around 2,750 species have been identified; eat cellulose and lignin, which are found in the cell walls of plants and are key ingredients of wood; valuable part of the ecosystem but harmful to humans because of the damage they can cause to wooden structures and some crops

Violin Beetle



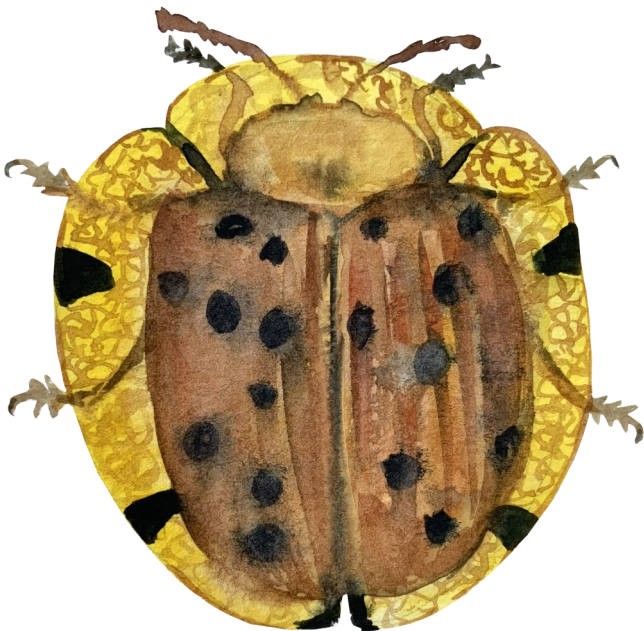
Mormolyce phyllodes

Yellow Jacket



Dolichovespula (genus) or *Vespula* (genus)

Yellow Tortoise Beetle



Cassidinae (subfamily)

Yellow Jacket

Scientific name: *Dolichovespula* (genus)
or *Vespula* (genus)

Size: on average, a worker is about
.5 inches (12 mm) long

Main colors: yellow, black, white, red

Interesting facts: around 35-40 different
species have been identified; type of
social wasp; some build exposed nests
while others hide nests underground or in
a protected spot; build nests ranging from
the size of your hand to a half ton

Violin Beetle

Scientific name: *Mormolyce phyllodes*

Size: 2.5-4 inches (60-100 mm) long

Main colors: black and brown

Interesting facts: part of the Carabidae
family of ground beetles; lives in cracks in
the soil or under the bark of dead trees;
can squirt a burning spray when
threatened

Yellow Tortoise Beetle

Scientific name: Cassidinae (subfamily)

Size: less than .5 inches (5-12 mm) long

Main colors: varies widely

Interesting facts: more than 3,000 species
have been identified; name comes from
the way its body is shaped; some are very
hazardous to garden plants and sweet
potatoes

Ant



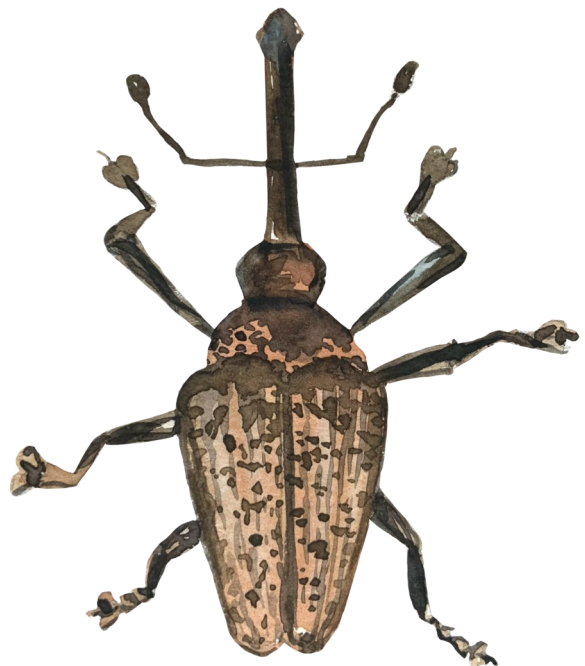
Asparagus Beetle



Blue Butterfly



Boll Weevil



Asparagus Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Ant

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Boll Weevil

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Blue Butterfly

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Bombardier Beetle



Bumble Bee



Colorado Potato Beetle



Dragonfly



Bumble Bee

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Bombardier Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Dragonfly

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Colorado Potato Beetle

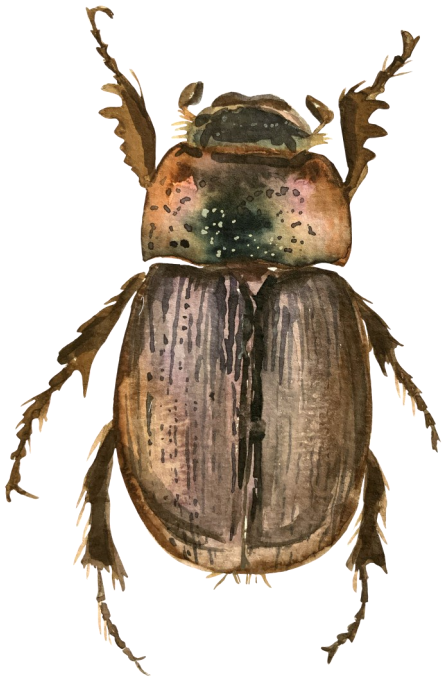
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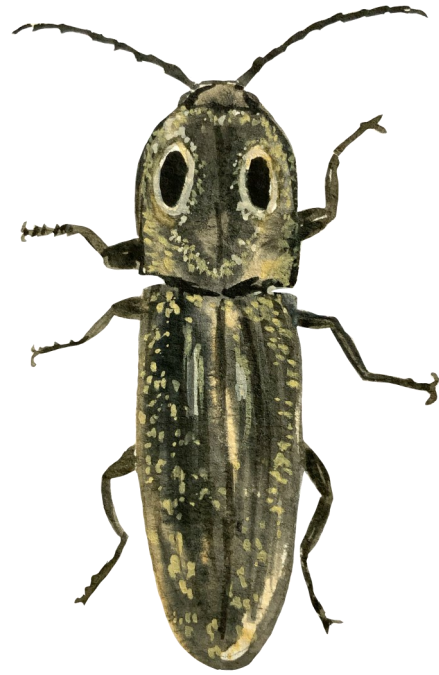
Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

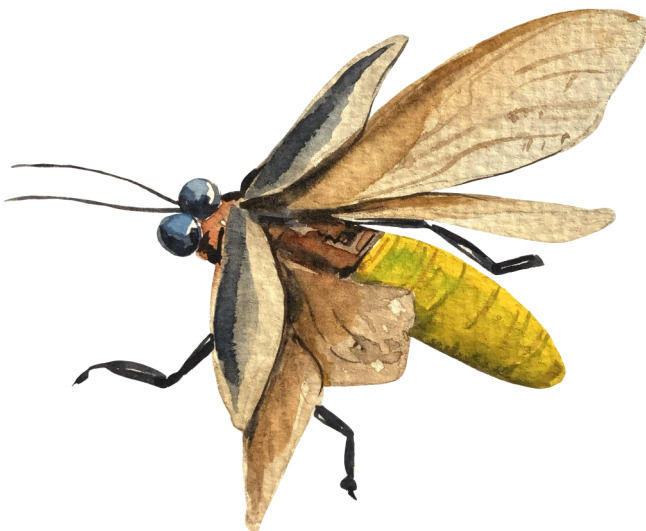
Dung Beetle



Eyed Elator



Firefly



Fly



Eyed Elator

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Dung Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Fly

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Firefly

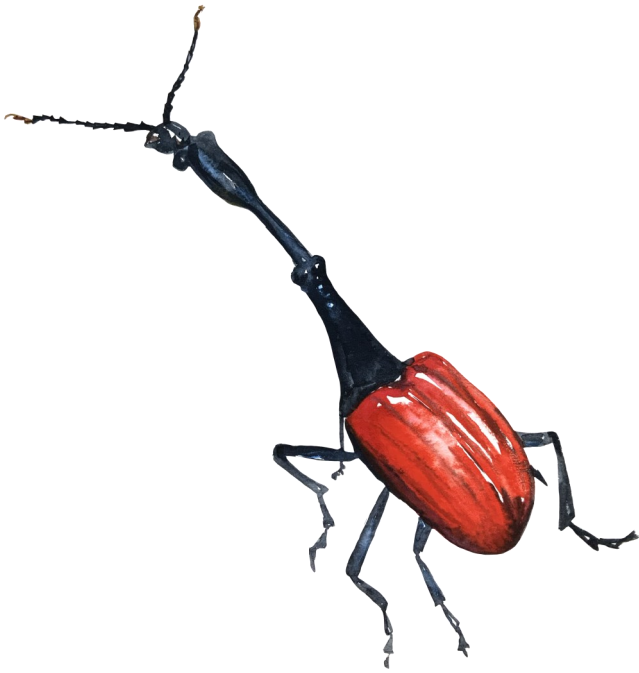
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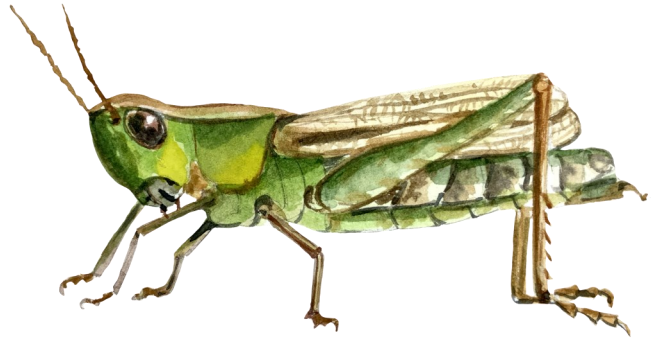
Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Giraffe Weevil



Grasshopper



Hister Beetle



Honey Bee



Grasshopper

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Giraffe Weevil

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Honey Bee

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Hister Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

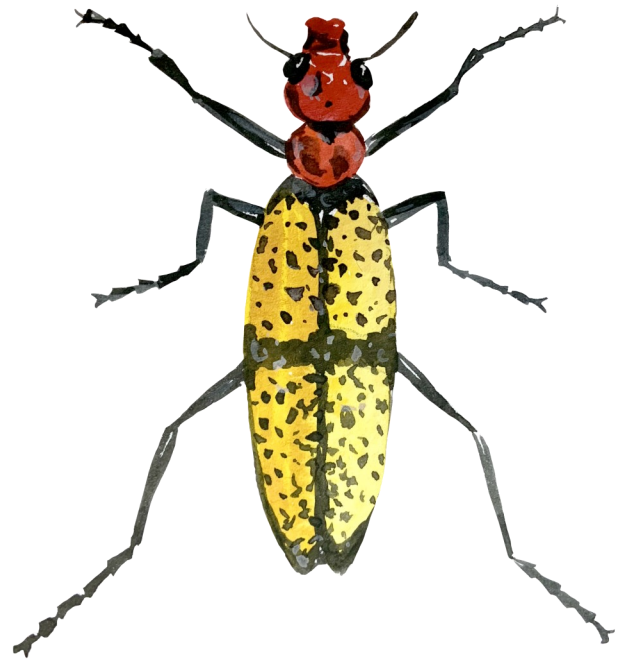
Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

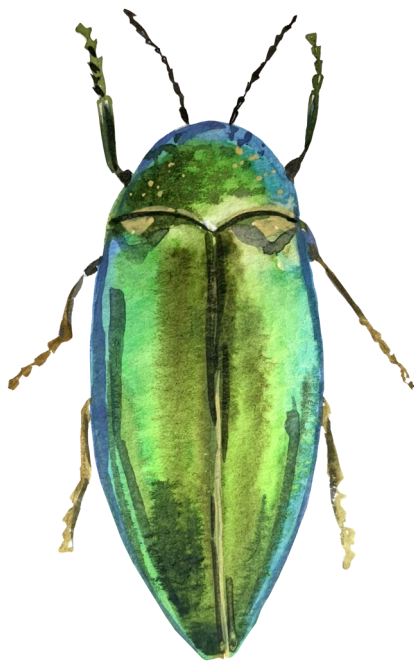
Io Moth



Iron Cross Blister Beetle



Jewel Beetle



Ladybug



Iron Cross Blister Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Io Moth

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Ladybug

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Jewel Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

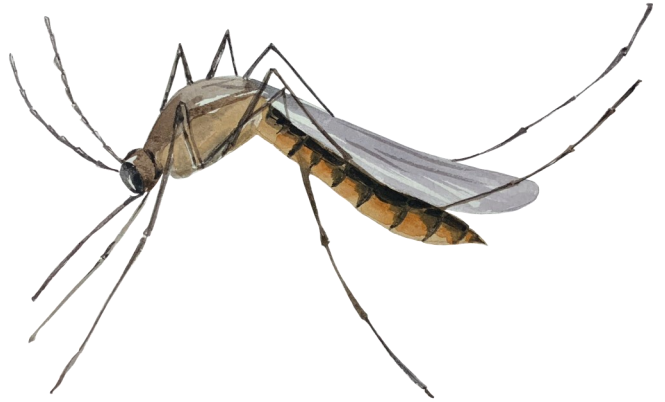
Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

May Beetle



Mosquito



Net-Winged Beetle



Oil Beetle



Mosquito

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

May Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Oil Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Net-Winged Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

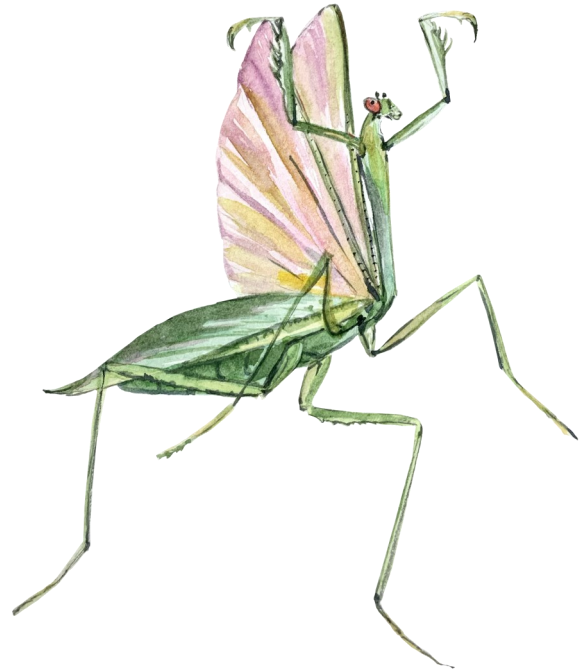
Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Pleasing Fungus Beetle



Praying Mantis



Queen Butterfly



Rhinoceros Beetle



Praying Mantis

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Pleasing Fungus Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Rhinoceros Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Queen Butterfly

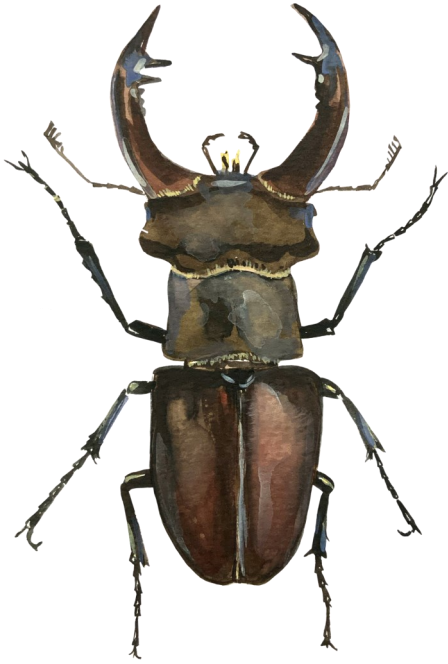
Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

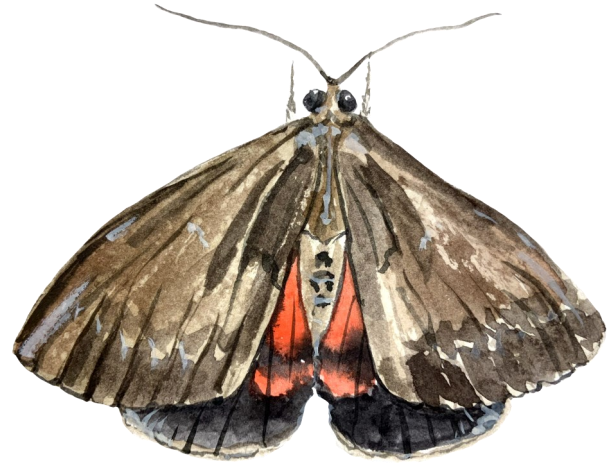
Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Stag Beetle



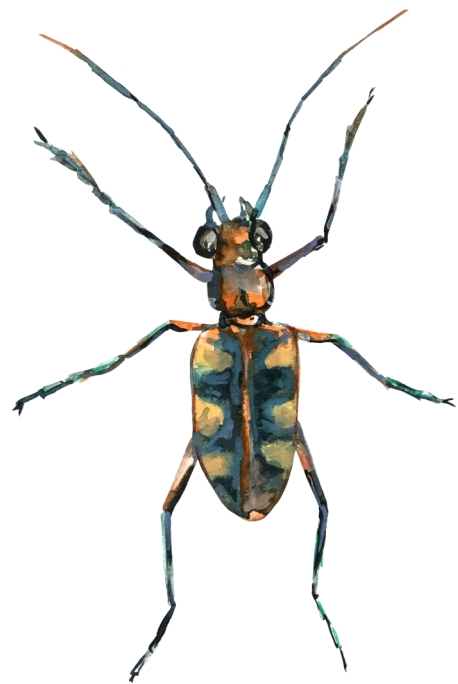
Straw Underwing



Termite



Tiger Beetle



Straw Underwing

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Stag Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Tiger Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Termite

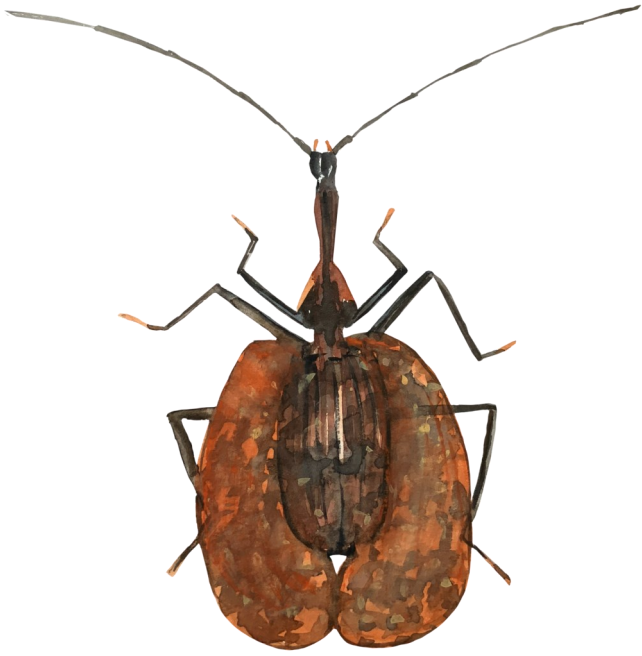
Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

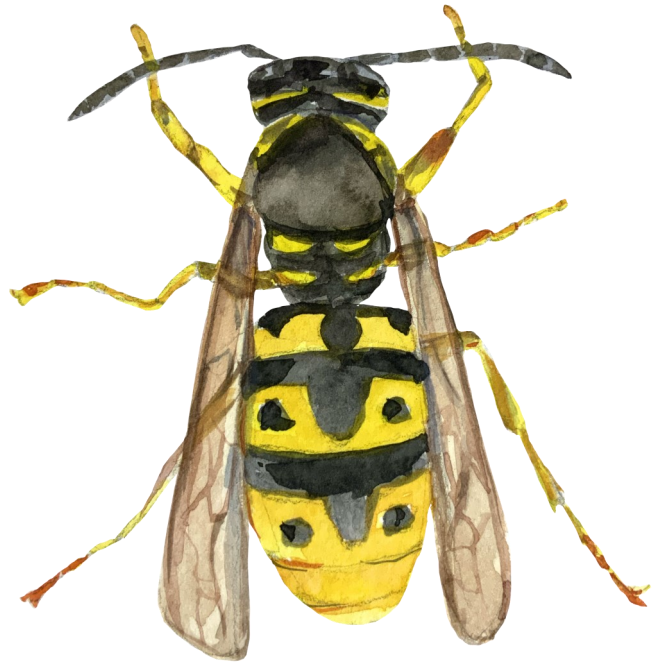
Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

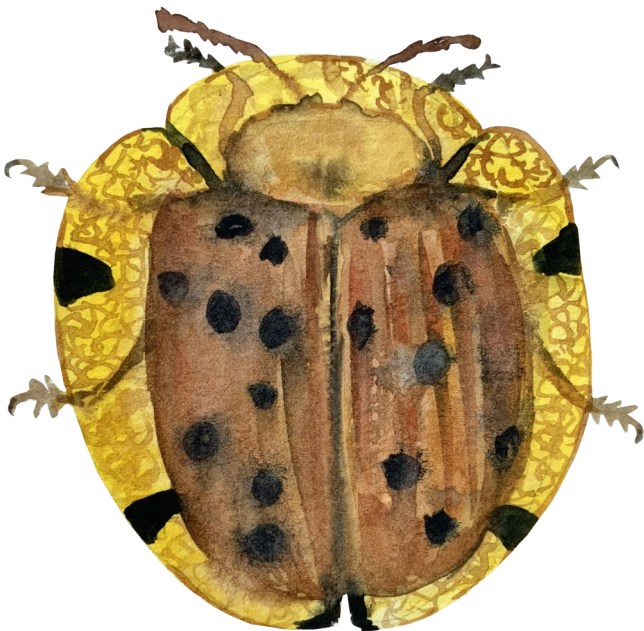
Violin Beetle



Yellow Jacket



Yellow Tortoise Beetle



Yellow Jacket

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Violin Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____

Yellow Tortoise Beetle

Scientific name: _____

Size: _____

Main colors: _____

Interesting facts: _____
