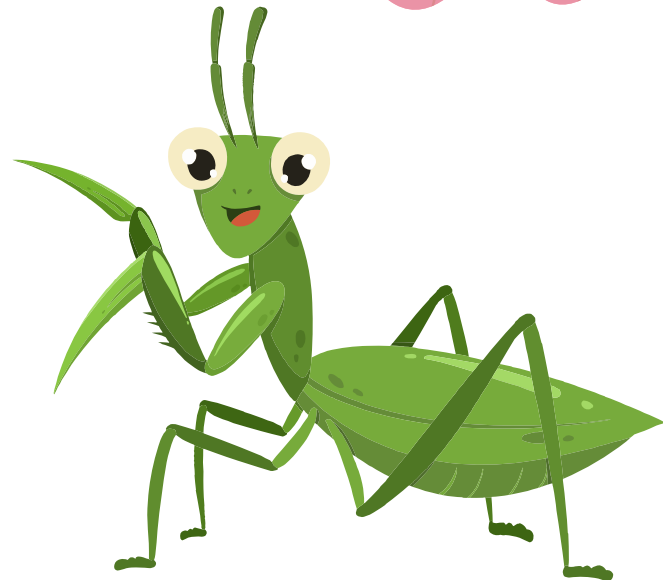
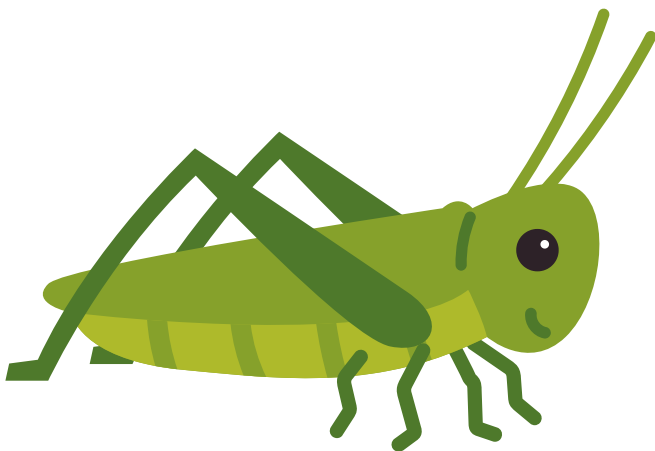
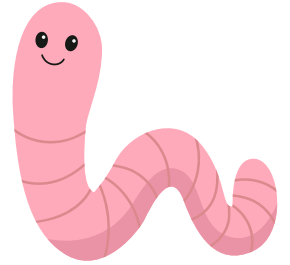
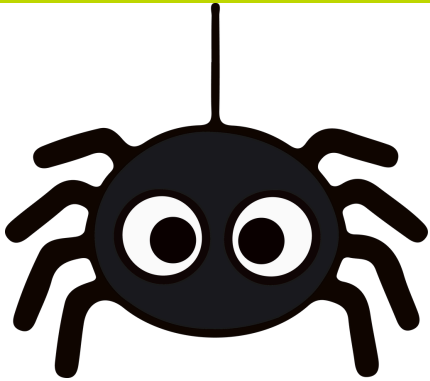


White County
Mini 4-H

Creepy Crawlies

Rev. 2026



Extension - White County



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White County
Mini 4-H

Mini 4-H

Project Requirements

- Exhibit a 22" x 28" stiff-backed horizontal poster, covered in clear plastic, which describes an activity you completed from this curriculum or similar age-appropriate topic
OR
- Exhibit a display, covered in clear plastic, based on an activity you completed from this curriculum or similar age-appropriate topic
OR
- A notebook (3 ring binder) based on one activity from this curriculum or similar age-appropriate topic

Your project must have a label with your **Name, Grade, and 4-H Club**. Labels are to be attached in the lower right-hand corner of poster projects.

Activity #1

What Makes an Insect an Insect?

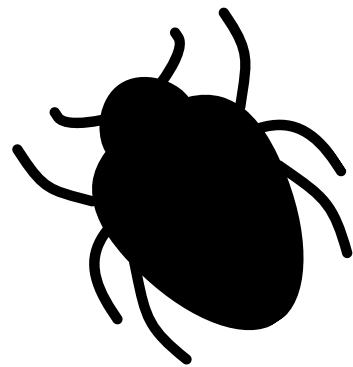
Insects have three body parts: head, thorax, and abdomen. They also have six legs, an exoskeleton, compound eyes, and one pair of antennae.

Insects are the most diverse group of animals on the planet! There are more than 6 million different types of insects! In this activity, learn what characteristics insects have and explore how they live.

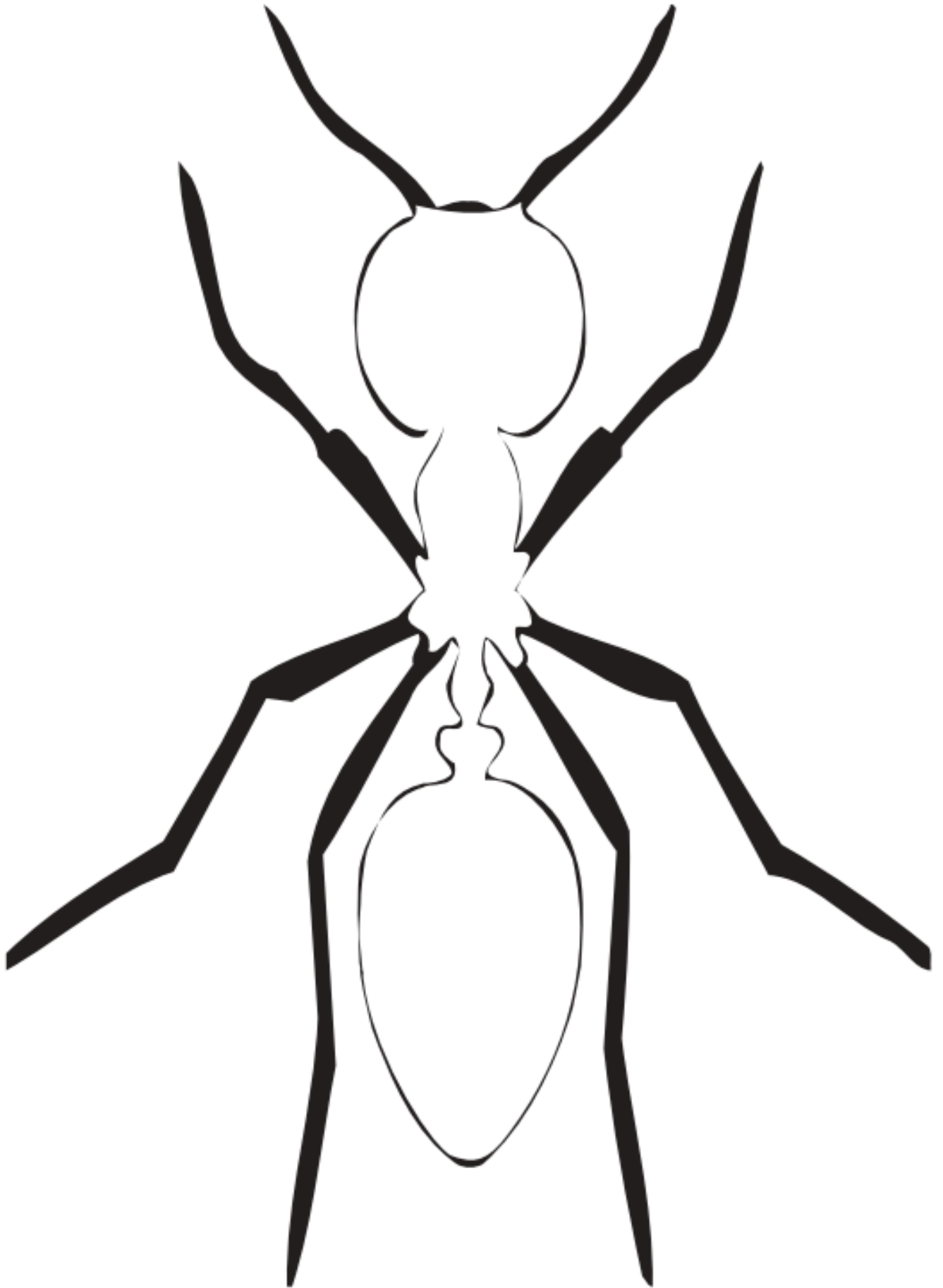
Materials: Body Parts sheet, crayons or markers

Steps:

1. Color the insect on the Body Parts Sheet.
2. Use crayons or a marker to label HEAD, THORAX, and ABDOMEN. You can also label antennae and legs if you would like.
3. Head outside and take a look at what insects you see! Pay close attention to what they are doing. How do they use their body parts to find food or shelter?



Bonus Activity: Using household items and/or craft supplies create a 3-D model of an insect with all of its body parts labeled!



Activity #2

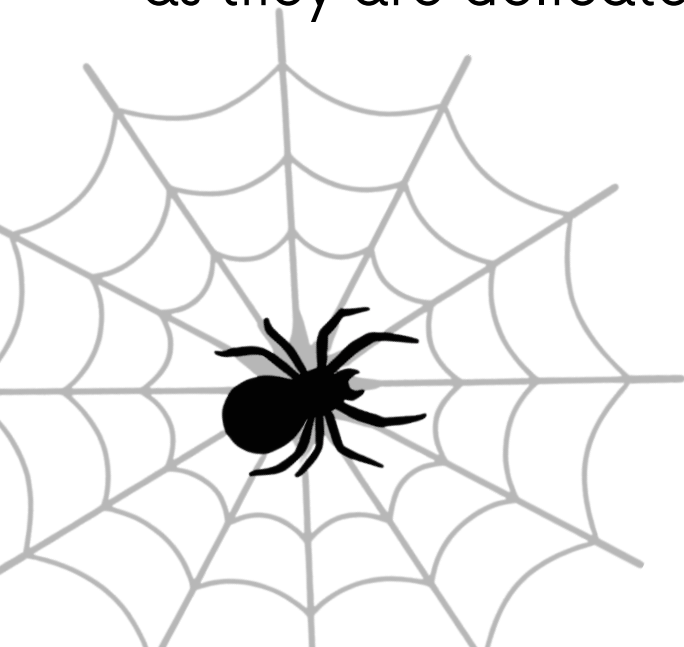
What about Spiders?

Are spiders insects? No! They have two body parts, the cephalothorax and abdomen, eight simple eyes, and eight legs, which makes them arachnids! Spiders are important members of any ecosystem! They eat insects that can be pests and they keep diseases from spreading.

Materials: Spider parts sheet, crayons or markers

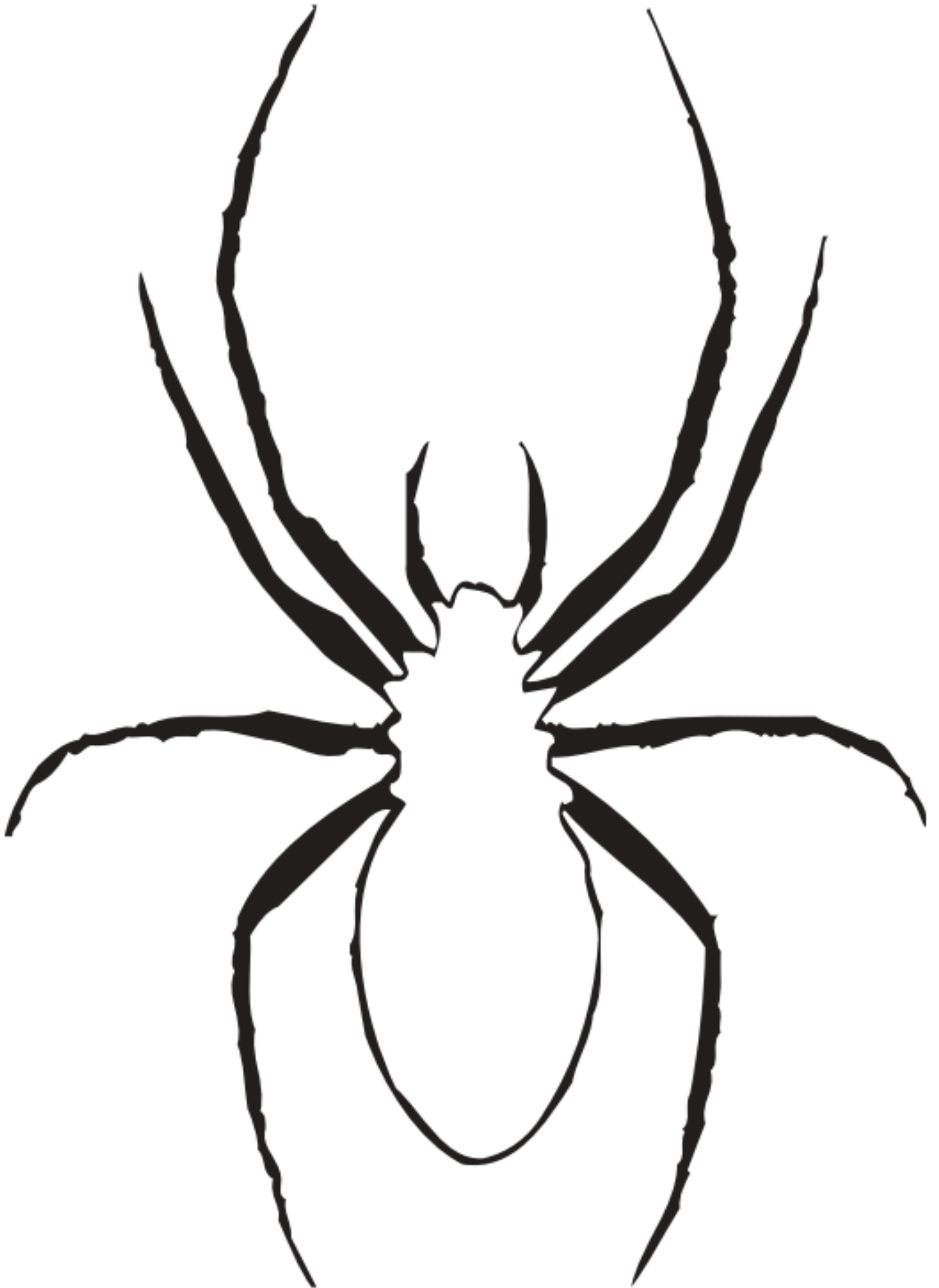
Steps:

1. Color the spider on the spider parts sheet.
2. Use a crayon or marker to label the spider's body parts: CEPHALOTHORAX and ABDOMEN. You can label the legs too if you want.
3. Head outside to find some spiderwebs. Do not touch as they are delicate.



Bonus Activity: Using household items and/or craft supplies create a 3-D model of a spider with all of its body parts labeled! Add a web too!

Spider Parts Activity Page



Activity #3

Symmetry Skills

Symmetry means that both things are the same on each side. Think of yourself, you have two eyes, two arms, and two legs. If you (pretend) split into two halves, both would almost be the same! Insects are symmetrical.

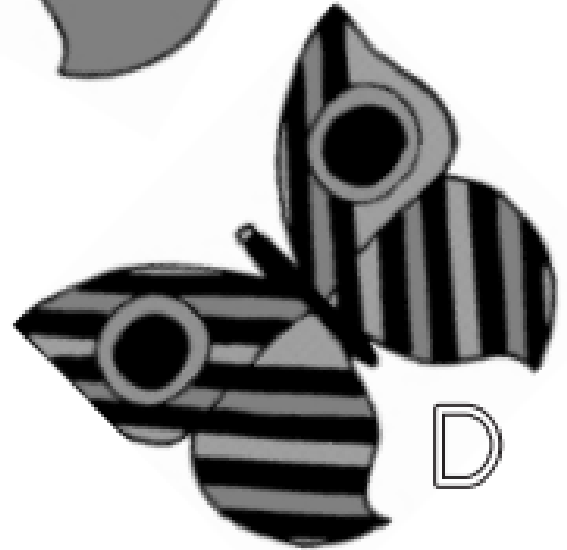
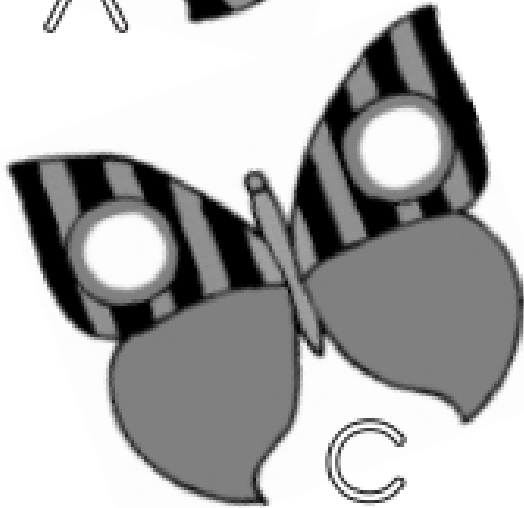
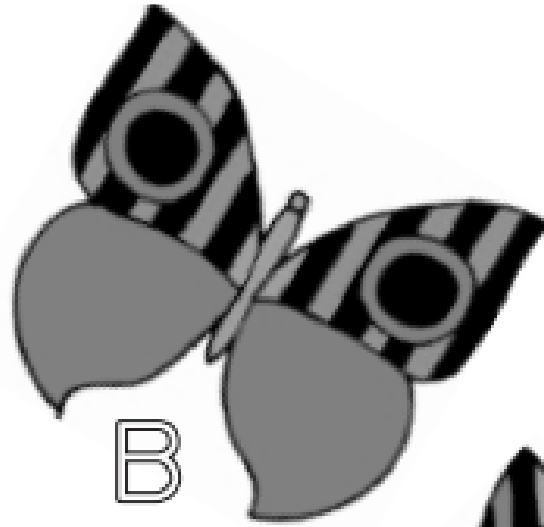
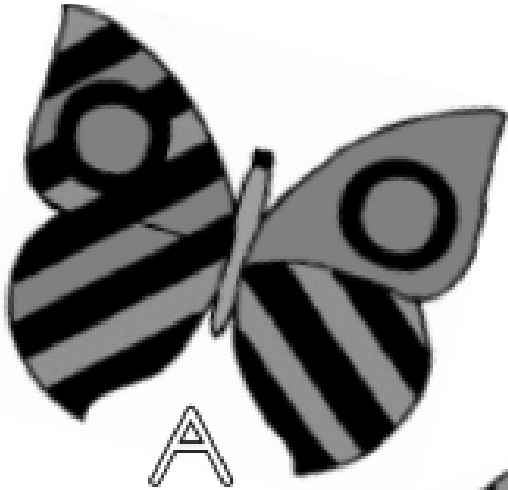
Materials: photos of symmetrical insects, cardboard, scissors, round shaped object to trace, pencil or straw

Steps:

1. Take a look at the photos of insects to try to figure out if they are symmetrical or not.
2. Why are insects symmetrical? Does this help them to survive in the wild?
3. Make two wheels out of cardboard (with an adult's help). Make one small and one large.
4. Use a pencil or straw to make an axle to connect the wheels. What happens with one small and one large? Do the wheels move straight or in a circle?

Activity #3

Symmetry Skills



**Which of these
butterflies have
symmetry?**

Activity #4

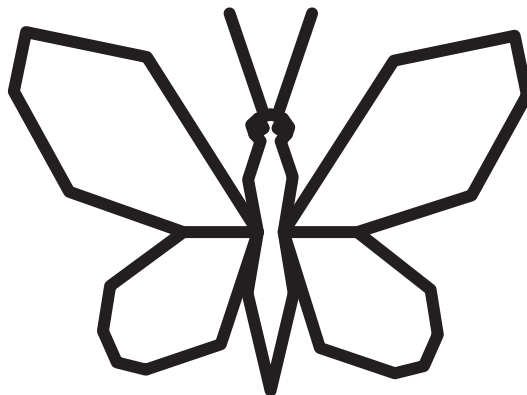
Create a Butterfly!

In this activity, you will get creative by designing your own butterfly! Butterflies are often thought of as some of the most beautiful insects, and they are often very colorful!

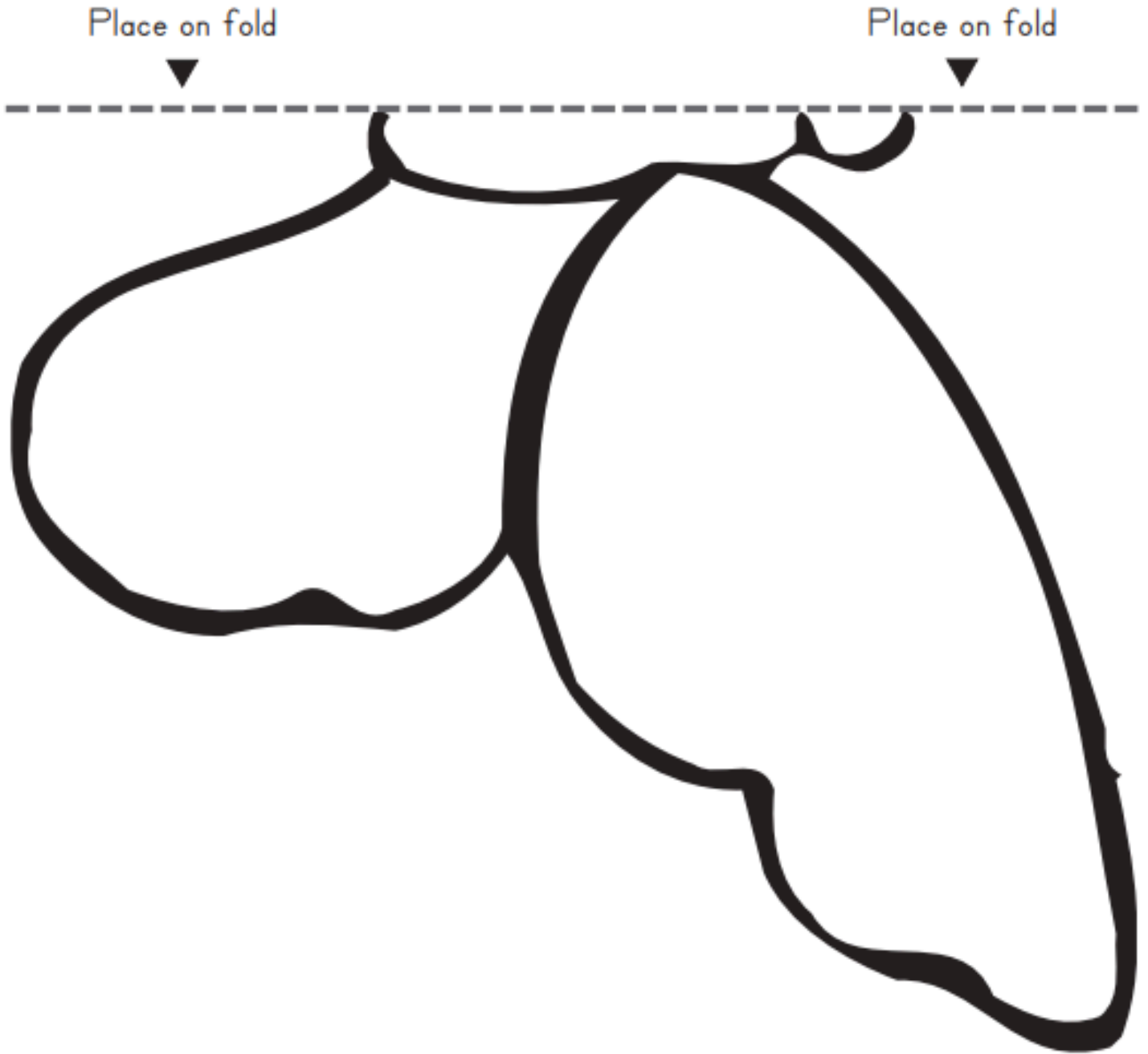
Materials: colored construction paper, Butterfly Symmetry Sheet, scissors, pipe cleaners, paint, scotch tape

Steps:

1. Fold construction paper in half 'hamburger style'.
2. Cut the Butterfly Symmetry Sheet along the dotted line. Place it on top of your folded construction paper.
3. Cut the butterfly shape out. Be sure not to cut along the fold where the body of the butterfly is.
4. Unfold your paper! There should be a butterfly shaped piece of paper!
5. Add a few dots of paint on one butterfly wing. What happens when you carefully press both wings together?
6. Finish off your butterfly with some pipe cleaner antennae and legs!



Butterfly Symmetry Activity Page



Activity #5

Hide and Seek

In the wild, animals have to hide so that they stay safe. One way that they are harder to find is by using their CAMOUFLAGE. This means that their bodies look like their surroundings.

Materials: Hide and Seek Sheet, Markers or crayons, scissors, white paper

Steps:

1. Cut along the dotted lines. The ovals represent insects and the squares represent their hiding places.
2. Lay each insect on the hiding places one by one. Which hiding place should each insect use to stay hidden? Why?
3. Trace the shape of one of the insects and one of the hiding places onto a piece of white paper to create your own insect and hiding place! Use crayons or markers to create some camouflage of your own!

Bug Hide and Seek Activity Page

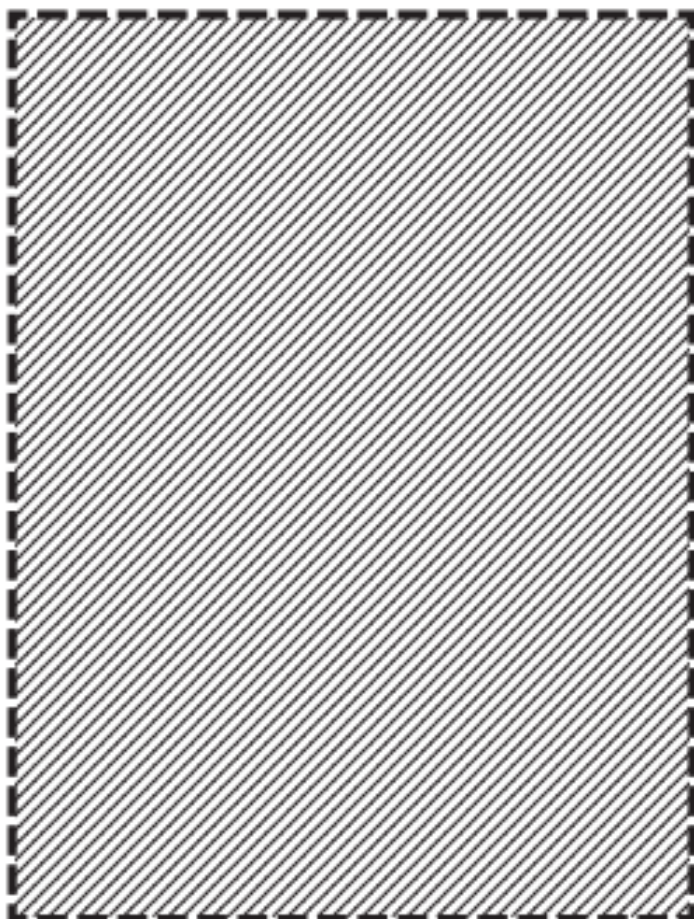
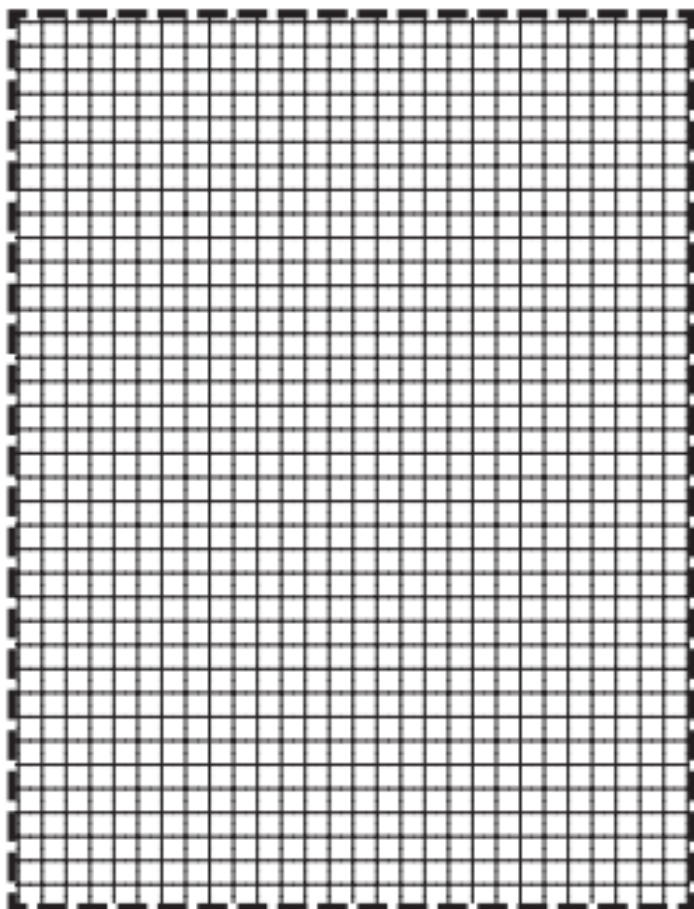
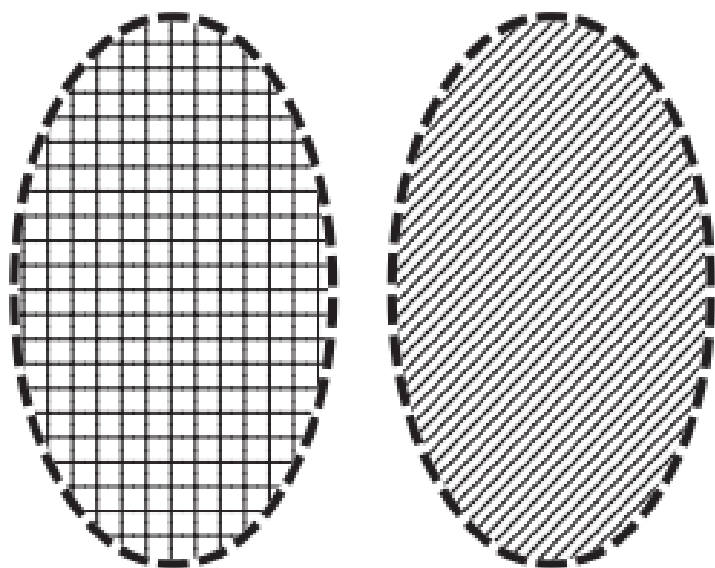


Exhibit Options

This is a list of project activities that can be shown at the 4-H fair or other places. Pick a project activity you would like to try. These are just examples. If you have any questions, please call the Extension Office. There are people there who can help you.

- Make a poster of an insect or spider. Label the body parts.
- Draw a picture of a butterfly. Be sure to make the designs on the wings symmetrical.
- Make a poster or a book showing some of the ways bugs protect themselves.
- Make a scrapbook of pictures showing your family having fun while making the project activities in this manual.
- Make a poster showing several kinds of bugs on one half and several kinds of spiders on the other half. You may want to draw the pictures or you may want to cut them from magazines.
- Make several kinds of bugs. Use them to make a mobile of moving creepy crawlies.
- Use a shoebox to encourage children to create a diorama for their bug. Use things from nature to make it realistic.

Additional Resources

[Indiana 4-H Mini Bugs Curriculum](#)

[Purdue University Entomology Department](#)

[All About Spiders- San Diego Zoo](#)