

WVMN Class Description

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Title: | INSECTS & OTHER INVERTEBRATES |
| Objectives: | Survey the diversity of West Virginia's macroscopic terrestrial invertebrates, with emphasis on insects. Explore their roles in the ecosystem, some of their adaptations and behaviors. Learn methods of collection and study. |
| Class type: | Core curriculum |
| Time: | 3 hours |
| Optimal season: | Spring, summer, fall |
| Materials: | Collecting nets; killing jars; vials of alcohol; containers for holding/observing live specimens; forceps; transparency; hand lenses; field microscope; field guides. |
| Expected outcomes: | The student will gain a basic understanding of <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. characteristics that define terrestrial invertebrate classes.2. major orders of WV insects and arachnids.3. observing, collecting, preserving, and identifying invertebrates. |

WVMN Class Outline

1. Insects
 - a. What is an insect?
 - b. Numbers and importance
 - c. Major orders
2. Spiders
 - a. What is a spider?
 - b. Numbers and role in the ecosystem
 - c. Spider venom and spider bites
 - d. Major families
 - e. Relatives of spiders other arachnids
 - Harvestmen or daddy longlegs
 - Ticks and mites
 - Pseudoscorpions
3. Other terrestrial invertebrates
 - a. Centipedes and millipedes
 - b. Sow bugs and pill bugs
 - c. Land snails and slugs
 - d. Earthworms and other worms
4. Observation, collecting, and study
 - a. Bug watching
 - b. Collecting and preserving
 - c. Useful references and other information sources
 - d. West Virginia Entomological Society