

HABITATS AND FUNCTIONS

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Materials:

- a set of insect cards with each card describing an insect or group of insects. Each card should have a short statement of biology, habitat, and function. A few interesting facts can also be included. [Note: a set of insect cards is provided below.]
- a set of cards or small posters with one function per sheet
- a set of cards or small posters with one habitat per sheet

Introduction: Present an introduction on insect diversity and all of the functions that insects perform in nature. Define herbivore and predator. Relate insects to other herbivore/ predator systems like gazelle/lions or triceratops/tyrannosaurus. Point out that insects function in other ways as well like pollinators, scavengers, and parasites. Point out that insects function in more than one category. Some are opportunists and some change as they change life stage. Define the concepts of function (what they do) and habitat (where they live).

Some suggested facts:

- about 1 million insect species now have names, there are 3-30 million different species on earth
- most insects are smaller than your fingernail - under 1/4 inch - we see the giants
- more kinds of insect activities and functions than any other group of organisms

Activity: Spread out the habitat cards in one area. Spread out the function cards in another area. Distribute the insect cards to the students. Have the students distribute themselves by function leaving the cards near the function cards. Collect the cards and redistribute them to the students to sort themselves out by habitat. Note that a habitat may have several insects with different functions.

Options: Read each card and pass them out one to each youth. If you want they can read them but sixth graders will have trouble with the words, will not speak up well and it takes much longer if they then read them. You can pass the cards out randomly or just toss them in the air to get them distributed. Then, let them read the cards on their own.

Once cards are passed out have the students move to a station for the function of each insect. I use cups with signs for herbivore, predator, etc. However, some insects will have more than one function and will have to walk back and forth between signs to represent multiple functions. You can have them just pick one function and deposit the card by the sign.

Closing: After they have sorted themselves out by function, point out that these insects are in their own backyard, all of the functions are underway but ignored because insects are small. Point out that there are many herbivores and scavengers, probably fewer predators and even fewer specialists like parasites.

Comments: I have used this activity successfully at field days and in classrooms. There are a lot of variations that can be done to accommodate time and space limitations.

<p style="text-align: center;">Springtail</p> <p>Biology: Springtails are common in moist habitats feeding on fungus, mold, algae and plants. Habitat: leaf litter, shorelines Function: scavenger, herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cockroach</p> <p>Biology: Cockroaches are common indoors and outdoors. These general feeders can eat almost anything. They prefer dark sheltered habitats. Habitat: indoors, log piles Function: scavenger</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Grasshopper</p> <p>Biology: Generally feed on vegetation but not always grass. A few may feed on other grasshoppers. Habitat: pastures, flowers Function: herbivore, predator</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cricket</p> <p>Biology: Generally a nocturnal feeder on vegetation. Habitat: pastures, flowers Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Preying Mantis</p> <p>Biology: A vicious predator on other insects. Can be found in many habitats. Habitat: trees, pastures, flowers Function: predator</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Katydid</p> <p>Biology: These noisy plant feeders may be found in trees, shrubs, and weeds. They may wake you up at night. Habitat: trees, pastures Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Cicada</p> <p>Biology: These day-time insects buzz loudly in the summer. They suck plant juices from trees as adults. The immatures spend up to 17 years in the ground sucking on tree roots. Habitat: trees Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Leafhopper</p> <p>Biology: Leafhoppers come in many sizes and colors. They suck plant juices and can leap and fly very well. Occasionally one may pierce your arm. Habitat: trees, pastures, flowers Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mealybug</p> <p>Biology: Mealybugs suck plant juice and can damage plants. They are covered with a fluffy, white waxy secretion. Habitat: trees and shrubs, grass, flowers Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Planthopper</p> <p>Biology: Planthoppers come in many odd shapes and a variety of colors. They fly and hop well and spend their time sucking juices from plants. Habitat: trees, grass or pastures, flowers Function: herbivore</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Earwig</p> <p>Biology: Earwigs like tight places and used to crawl into wigs during the night. They may feed on insects and plants which may be dead or alive. Habitat: leaf litter, pastures Function: herbivore, predator, scavenger</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Stonefly</p> <p>Biology: Stoneflies are found in flowing streams. They are a favorite fish food and many artificial flies for fishing are patterned after them. They feed by scraping plant material from rocks. Habitat: streams Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mayfly</p> <p>Biology: Mayflies are the only group of insects that molts once it has wings. As adults they are short lived usually only a day or two. Immatures or nymphs are found in the bottom of streams, lakes or ponds. Habitat: streams, ponds Function: herbivore, scavenger</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dragonfly</p> <p>Biology: Adult and immature dragonflies are good predators. Adult dragonflies can catch and eat 60 mosquitoes in a minute. Immatures are in water and sometimes are predators on small fish. Habitat: ponds, streams, shorelines Function: predator</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Damselfly</p> <p>Biology: Damselflies look like delicate dragonflies but are much weaker fliers. Adults hold there wings over the back. Adults and immatures are predators on many insects. Habitat: ponds, streams Function: predator</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Walkingstick</p> <p>Biology: Walkingsticks move very slowly which helps their camouflage. They feed mostly on tree leaves. A few of them produce a foul-smelling irritating fluid to scare off predators. Habitat: trees, pastures Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Termite</p> <p>Biology: Termites are well known as destroyers of wood buildings. In the wild they perform an important function of breaking down dead woody plants. Termites maintain protozoa in their guts to break down wood. Habitat: decaying trees, indoors Function: scavenger</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Chewing Louse</p> <p>Biology: Many types of lice are associated with birds and mammals. They feed on the skin and hairs of animals and may make the host miserable. Habitat: mammals or birds Function: external parasite</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Thrips</p> <p>Biology: Thrips are very small and can be abundant on flowers. They have a sharp rasping mouth that they use to scrap plants as they feed. Some of them are predators on very small insects.</p> <p>Habitat: flowers, pastures</p> <p>Function: predator, herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cat Flea</p> <p>Biology: Fleas can be a problem in the home that has pets. It is important to treat the yard, the pet and the house all at the same time to get rid of fleas.</p> <p>Habitat: pets</p> <p>Function: external parasite</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Aphid</p> <p>Biology: Aphids or plant lice can build up rapidly. They suck plant juices from many plants. They have a complicated life cycle which includes live birth or eggs, and winged and wingless adults.</p> <p>Habitat: flowers, grasses, trees</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Scale Insects</p> <p>Biology: Scale insects are small and can be mistaken as fungus or dirt on leaves or stems of plants.</p> <p>Habitat: trees, pastures, flowers</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Lacewing</p> <p>Biology: Lacewing adults and larvae feed on aphids or plant lice. They are grown commercially and sold as biological control agents.</p> <p>Habitat: flowers, pastures</p> <p>Function: predator</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Antlion</p> <p>Biology: Immature antlions are called doodlebugs which make a pit trap in the sand to collect ants. They can be interesting to watch.</p> <p>Habitat: sandy soils</p> <p>Function: predator</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Stink Bug</p> <p>Biology: Stink bugs are usually considered plant feeders but some of them are predators on other insects.</p> <p>Habitat: pastures, flowers</p> <p>Function: herbivore, predator</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Leaffooted Bug</p> <p>Biology: This is a pest of tomatoes and black-eyed peas. They have hind legs that look like a leaf.</p> <p>Habitat: gardens, pastures, flowers</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Plant Bug</p> <p>Biology: Many species of small plant bugs occur in the landscape. They feed primarily on plants but can sometimes take a meal of insects.</p> <p>Habitat: trees, flowers</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ambush Bug</p> <p>Biology: Ambush bugs wait quietly on flowers to capture insects as food. They have grasping front legs much like those of a preying mantis.</p> <p>Habitat: flowers, pastures</p> <p>Function: predator</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Assassin Bug</p> <p>Biology: Assassin bugs pierce and suck the juices from other insects. They usually move around at night and can bite people.</p> <p>Habitat: wood lots, indoors</p> <p>Function: predator, external parasite</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Water Boatman</p> <p>Biology: These small swimmers can be very common in ponds where they feed on plants. They may fly into swimming pools.</p> <p>Habitat: ponds</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Giant Water Bug</p> <p>Biology: Giant water bugs are large predators about two inches long. They can catch and pierce insects or fish as their food. Adults fly to lights and are sometimes called "electric light bugs".</p> <p>Habitat: ponds</p> <p>Function: predator</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Hellgrammite</p> <p>Biology: These long nasty predators prefer to live in streams under rocks. They are great fish bait. Water must be clear and clean for them to survive.</p> <p>Habitat: streams</p> <p>Function: predator</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tiger Beetle</p> <p>Biology: Adults stalk their prey and can fly away when you try to catch them. Immatures build tunnels in the sand and jump out to catch passing insects much like trap door spiders.</p> <p>Habitat: soil (immatures), shorelines, trails (adults)</p> <p>Function: predator</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Predaceous Diving Beetle</p> <p>Biology: These beetles come in many sizes and can be found in most types of water.</p> <p>Habitat: ponds</p> <p>Function: predator</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Whirlgig Beetle</p> <p>Biology: Whirlgig beetles swim on the surface of ponds and streams. They swim with erratic circular moves. These beetles have their compound eyes divided so they can see above and below the water surface. Habitat: ponds, streams Function: scavenger, predator</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Riffle Beetle</p> <p>Biology: These small slow moving beetles are usually present only in fast flowing streams. They scrape plants and debris from rocks for their food. Habitat: streams Function: herbivore, scavenger</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Metallic Wood Borer</p> <p>Biology: Metallic wood borers are bright shiny beetles as adults. Immatures are flat headed grubs that bore into trees and shrubs. They seldom attack healthy trees but may be a factor in the decline of poorly growing trees. Habitat: trees Function: scavenger</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Click Beetle</p> <p>Biology: Flip a click beetle on its back and it will snap its body until it lands on its feet again. Larvae feed on grass roots, root vegetables, and in decaying wood. Habitat: pastures, gardens Function: scavenger, herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Firefly, Lightbug</p> <p>Biology: Fireflies are sometimes abundant and are great fun to watch on a dark night. The larvae are seldom seen but apparently are scavengers that feed on dead plant material. Habitat: pastures, flowers Function: scavenger</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sap Beetle</p> <p>Biology: Sap beetles attack decaying fruit or vegetables and sometimes are abundant on flowers. Some of these can be a real nuisance at picnics when they are attracted to the food odors. Habitat: flowers, decaying fruit Function: scavenger</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Flat Bark Beetle</p> <p>Biology: Flat bark beetles are dull brown and crawl under the bark of trees and logs. They feed on insects like wood borers that are common under loose bark. Habitat: decaying wood Function: predator</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Darkling Beetle</p> <p>Biology: There are many types of darkling beetles especially in the southwestern U. S. They feed on plant roots or dead plant material. Habitat: grass, pastures Function: herbivore, scavenger</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Tumbling Flower Beetle</p> <p>Biology: Most tumbling flower beetles are small, black, and pointed on the tail. They get their name because they bounce around erratically when they are held or caught in a net. Larvae bore in soft stems or decaying wood.</p> <p>Habitat: flowers</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Blister Beetle</p> <p>Biology: Adults congregate on flowers or plants like alfalfa. Handling blister beetles can cause your skin to blister and itch. Horses that swallow 2 or three blister beetles that were bundled into hay can die from a reaction. They have complex life cycles with larvae that feed on grasshoppers or bees.</p> <p>Habitat: pastures, flowers</p> <p>Function: predator, herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Antlike Flower Beetle</p> <p>Biology: These predaceous beetles really do look like ants. They are very common in cotton fields and on flowers.</p> <p>Habitat: pastures, flowers</p> <p>Function: predator</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Weevils or Snout Beetles</p> <p>Biology: Weevils are the largest group of beetles but all of them are plant feeders. Weevils may feed on roots, flowers, stems or leaves of many plants. The boll weevil is one of the most serious insect pests of cotton.</p> <p>Habitat: trees, pastures, flowers</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Bark Beetles</p> <p>Biology: Bark beetles are small dull beetles. However, the southern pine beetle causes tremendous damage in East Texas where it attacks living trees. Most bark beetles attack trees that are already dying. Several bark beetles transmit diseases to plants.</p> <p>Habitat: trees</p> <p>Function: herbivore, scavenger</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Longhorned Wood Borer</p> <p>Biology: Longhorned wood borers come in many sizes and shapes. Most woody plants have at least one and sometimes many species of longhorns that feed on them. The round headed borers or grubs usually attack dead trees.</p> <p>Habitat: trees, wood lot</p> <p>Function: herbivore, scavenger</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Leaf Beetle</p> <p>Biology: Leaf beetles as you might guess from the name feed on leaves of all kinds of plants. They come in a myriad of colors and shapes. Several of them are important pests.</p> <p>Habitat: flowers, grass, trees</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dung Feeding Scarab</p> <p>Biology: Animal dung does not just disappear. Dung beetles are important recyclers of animal waste products. Grubs and adult beetles can be found in cow pies. The sacred scarab beetles of ancient Egypt are dung beetles.</p> <p>Habitat: animal droppings</p> <p>Function: scavenger</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">White Grubs, June Beetles</p> <p>Biology: White grubs chew on roots of grass and other plants. They damage lawns and gardens. Adults are brown June beetles or May beetles that accumulate under lights.</p> <p>Habitat: pastures, grass</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Caddisfly</p> <p>Biology: Caddisflies are abundant in flowing water. Larvae look like caterpillars and use a variety of materials to form cases for shelter. They feed by scraping and filtering plant material from the rocks, sand and water. Caddisflies are important fish food and favorite fly patterns for fly fishermen.</p> <p>Habitat: streams</p> <p>Function: herbivore, scavenger</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Clothes Moth</p> <p>Biology: Caterpillars of clothes moths feed on animal skins and fabric. They can be a serious household pest.</p> <p>Habitat: dead animals, indoors</p> <p>Function: scavenger</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bagworm</p> <p>Biology: Bagworms form cases of dead leaves on cedar and other trees. They can be a pest of ornamental plants.</p> <p>Habitat: trees</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Inchworms, Measuring Worms</p> <p>Biology: Inchworms come in many sizes and colors. Adults are delicate moths with large wings in many color combinations.</p> <p>Habitat: trees</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tent Caterpillars</p> <p>Biology: Tent caterpillars come out early in the spring and feed on cherry, plum, oak and other hardwood trees.</p> <p>Habitat: trees</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Giant Silkworms</p> <p>Biology: Giant silkworm moths are some of the largest moths. The huge caterpillars can be four inches long and feed on leaves of trees.</p> <p>Habitat: trees</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Giant Swallowtail Butterfly</p> <p>Biology: Giant swallowtail butterflies are out largest butterfly. Caterpillars feed on citrus and can sometimes be a nuisance. Caterpillars have fake eye spots which can be used to scare off birds.</p> <p>Habitat: trees, flowers</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Cabbage Butterfly</p> <p>Biology: Cabbage butterflies are common white butterflies. Larvae are green and a pest of cabbage and broccoli.</p> <p>Habitat: gardens, pastures</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Gray Hairstreak Butterfly</p> <p>Biology: Gray hairstreak butterflies have false eye spots and antennae at the end of the hind wings. Birds peck at the eye spots and the butterfly escapes with only losing a part of the wing. Cotton growers call caterpillars the cotton square borer.</p> <p>Habitat: flowers, cotton fields</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Monarch Butterfly</p> <p>Biology: The monarch butterfly is the best known milkweed butterfly. These beautiful butterflies taste bad because of the plant chemicals in its diet.</p> <p>Habitat: pastures, flowers</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tomato Hornworm, Sphinx Moth</p> <p>Biology: Tomato hornworms can really chew up tomato plants. These large hornworms turn into sleek moths that can fly over 30 miles per hour and sometimes are mistaken for hummingbirds.</p> <p>Habitat: gardens, flowers</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Cutworm</p> <p>Biology: Cutworms are dull caterpillars that clip young plants in gardens and field crops. Adults are "miller" moths that occur at lights.</p> <p>Habitat: pastures, crops</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Underwing Moth</p> <p>Biology: Hind wings of underwing moths contrast with the dull front wings. Hind wings that are brightly colored seem to disappear when they are folded up when the moth lands. Caterpillars feed mostly on leaves of trees.</p> <p>Habitat: wood lots</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Crane Fly</p> <p>Biology: Crane flies are large long-legged creatures which are common at lights early in the spring. They are sometimes called giant mosquitoes or mosquito hawks. In reality, they can not bite and are harmless. The name mosquito hawk should be used for dragonflies.</p> <p>Habitat: ponds, wood lots</p> <p>Function: detritivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Midge</p> <p>Biology: Midges appear much like a mosquito and can be found in large numbers around lakes. The larvae are scavengers that are found in the bottom of ponds and lakes.</p> <p>Habitat: ponds, lakes</p> <p>Function: scavenger</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Mosquito</p> <p>Biology: Mosquitoes are well known as blood feeders. Only female mosquitoes bite. Larvae are found in water.</p> <p>Habitat: ponds</p> <p>Function: external parasite</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Robber Fly</p> <p>Biology: Robber flies capture other insects to feed on. They sit on prominent branches or flowers waiting for passing prey</p> <p>Habitat: flowers, wood lots</p> <p>Function: predator</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Black Fly</p> <p>Biology: Black flies are fierce biters that cause human reactions that are worse than mosquito bites. Immatures live on rocks and submerged logs in flowing water where they sift food particles from the water.</p> <p>Habitat: streams</p> <p>Function: external parasite, scavenger</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">March Fly</p> <p>Biology: These flies emerge early in the year and can be found commonly around ponds and streams. Larvae are on the stream bed or in marshy Habitats.</p> <p>Habitat: ponds, streams</p> <p>Function: scavengers</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Gall Midge</p> <p>Biology: Many small gall midges will lay eggs in tender foliage of plants as it grows in the spring. The gall is formed when the plant reacts to the maggot growing on the plant</p> <p>Habitat: trees</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Deer Fly</p> <p>Biology: Deer flies are fierce biters also called green heads or cedar flies. Larvae live in moist Habitats where they feed on decaying vegetable matter.</p> <p>Habitat: stream edges</p> <p>Function: external parasite</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Flower Fly</p> <p>Biology: Flower flies are often mistaken for bees. They are also called syrphid flies or hover flies. Larvae of many species are predators that feed on aphids.</p> <p>Habitat: flowers, leaves</p> <p>Function: predators</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fruit Fly</p> <p>Biology: These small flies are attracted to decaying fruit like bananas. The maggots grow quickly and can develop into flies in about a week.</p> <p>Habitat: decaying fruit</p> <p>Function: scavenger</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Horn Fly</p> <p>Biology: Horn flies are pests of cattle and other animals. They feed on blood. Maggots are produced in cattle dung.</p> <p>Habitat: animals, dung</p> <p>Function: external parasite, scavenger</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Leafmining Fly</p> <p>Biology: Leaf mines are tunnels in leaves caused by many kinds of insects especially certain flies.</p> <p>Habitat: leaves</p> <p>Function: herbivores</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">House Fly</p> <p>Biology: House flies are a nuisance but they can not bite. The maggots develop in garbage or decaying vegetable matter.</p> <p>Habitat: garbage</p> <p>Function: scavenger</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tachnid Fly</p> <p>Biology: Tachinid flies look like large hairy house flies. The immatures feed inside caterpillars, grasshoppers and other insects usually killing the host.</p> <p>Habitat: flowers</p> <p>Function: internal parasite</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sawfly</p> <p>Biology: Sawflies look a lot like wasps as adults but the immatures look more like caterpillars. The immatures feed on foliage.</p> <p>Habitat: trees</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Braconid Wasp</p> <p>Biology: These small wasps develop on the inside of caterpillars and other insects.</p> <p>Habitat: insects, flowers</p> <p>Function: internal parasite</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Trichogramma Wasp</p> <p>Biology: Trichogramma are very small wasps that are seldom seen. Immatures can develop inside the eggs of many species of moths. They are sold for biological control</p> <p>Habitat: flowers</p> <p>Function: internal parasite</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Gall Wasp</p> <p>Biology: Gall wasps lay eggs on leaves or twigs in the early spring. The plant forms a gall as a defense against them. Galls come in many shapes and sizes which are characterized by the wasp species.</p> <p>Habitat: trees</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Harvester Ant</p> <p>Biology: Harvester ants are good sized red ants which collect seeds and dead insects for food. They form a colony in the ground with a single entrance with pebbles around the bare area.</p> <p>Habitat: soil</p> <p>Function: herbivore, scavenger</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fire Ant</p> <p>Biology: Fire ants are predators and scavengers which feed on a wide variety of foods. They are best know for their stings and the nuisance of the mounds that they build.</p> <p>Habitat: pastures, lawns</p> <p>Function: predators, scavengers</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Carpenter Ant</p> <p>Biology: Carpenter ants nest in wood but they never form large colonies. They can sometimes be a nuisance as a pest in houses. These ants forage long distances for dead insects and sweet foods.</p> <p>Habitat: decaying wood</p> <p>Function: scavenger</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Leaf-Cutting Ant</p> <p>Biology: Leaf-cutting ants or town ants form huge colonies with many entrances. The workers forage at night and collect leaf material to carry back to the colony and can be a pest when they defoliate trees. They grow fungus on the leaves as food.</p> <p>Habitat: wood lots</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mud Dauber Wasps</p> <p>Biology: Mud daubers collect mud and fashion it into tubes on buildings or in trees. They collect insects or spiders to feed their offspring that develop inside the tubes.</p> <p>Habitat: buildings, wood lots</p> <p>Function: predator</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cicada Killer Wasp</p> <p>Biology: Cicada killers sting cicadas and drag them to a nesting site in sandy soil. The females dig burrows in the sand and lay eggs on the cicada which is then used as food for the larvae</p> <p>Habitat: sandy soil</p> <p>Function: predator</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Honey Bee</p> <p>Biology: Honey bees are probably our most important pollinator. They have been managed for honey production for thousands of years.</p> <p>Habitat: flowers</p> <p>Function: pollinator, herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bumble Bee</p> <p>Biology: Bumble bees for small colonies usually with only a few hundred individuals. They nest in the soil and keep small stores of honey in pots rather than honey comb.</p> <p>Habitat: flowers</p> <p>Function: pollinator, herbivore</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Paper Wasps</p> <p>Biology: Paper wasps like to nest under eaves of buildings or other sheltered areas. They form small colonies and feed their young in the cells.</p> <p>Habitat: buildings</p> <p>Function: herbivore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Jumping Spider</p> <p>Biology: Jumping spiders are bold daytime hunters. They see well and stalk their prey before they leap onto it.</p> <p>Habitat: trees, bushes, flowers</p> <p>Function: predator</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wolf Spider</p> <p>Biology: Wolf spiders are nocturnal hunters that roam around in search of prey. They only use webs as a shelter. The large size and quick movements may startle you when they enter a home.</p> <p>Habitat: leaf litter</p> <p>Function: predator</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Scorpion</p> <p>Biology: Scorpions defend themselves well by stinging. They like to hide in board piles, under bark and around stones.</p> <p>Habitat: log piles</p> <p>Function: scavenger, predator</p>