

Bees and Wasps



2 pairs of wings, narrow waist!

Caterpillars

Some have good camouflage! Keep an eye out!



Aphids and psyllids

most < 5 mm, and often < 2 mm



Flies



Only 1 pair of wings!

Daddy longlegs



The head and abdomen appear to be part of a single round "body"; 8 long legs!

Leafhoppers, planthoppers, cicadas



Butterflies and Moths

The adult forms of our caterpillar friends!



Spiders

8 legs; abdomen distinct from rest of body



True bugs

Look for the 'X' on the back formed by overlapping wings!

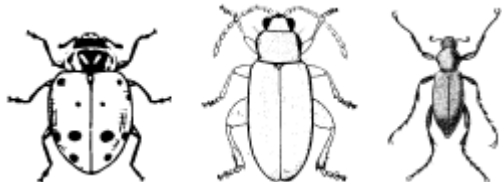


Beetles

Ladybird beetle larva



Look for the straight line where the wing casings meet!



Grasshoppers, Crickets, and Katydid



grasshopper

cricket

katydid

Ants



Bees and Wasps

Order: Hymenoptera (excluding ants)

Identification: 2 pairs of wings with hind wings smaller than front wings with few cross veins.

Notes: Beware of flies mimicking bees and wasps in color pattern!

Flies

Order: Diptera

Identification: Only one pair of wings! Wings are membranous with conspicuous veins.

Notes: Shape and color highly variable; look out for bee and wasp mimics!

Caterpillars

Order: Lepidoptera

Identification: 3 pairs of legs close to the head, and 2-5 pairs of stubbier false 'prolegs' farther toward the rear.

Notes: May be fat like a hornworm or long and skinny like an inchworm, hairy like a gypsy moth caterpillar, or highly camouflaged to resemble leaves or twigs (or even bird poop!).

Daddy longlegs

Order: Opiliones

Identification: 8 long legs; The head (cephalothorax) and abdomen appear to be part of a single round "body".

Notes: Also called "harvestmen".

Spiders

Order: Araneae

Identification: 8 legs; The abdomen is distinct from the rest of the body.

Notes: Spiders are great hunters and many species do not build a web, like jumping spiders.

Grasshoppers, Crickets, and Katydid

Order: Orthoptera

Identification: Jumping hind legs; Hind wings, when open, spread like fans.

Notes: Antennae can be short or long!

Aphids and psyllids

Order: Hemiptera

Suborder: Sternorrhynca

Identification: Green, yellow or whitish in color, usu. <5 mm and often <2 mm.

Notes: Aphids are common garden pests sucking plant juices from leaves and stems!

Leafhoppers, planthoppers, cicadas

Order: Hemiptera

Suborder: Auchenorrhynca

Identification: Usu. a wide head relative to the body. Hoppers have wings folded tentlike over the back and are good...hoppers. Cicadas have large membranous wings.

True bugs

Order: Hemiptera

Suborder: Heteroptera

Identification: Semi-transparent wings overlap so as to make a triangle or 'X' shape on the back. Often obvious pointy 'shoulders'.

Notes: Don't say 'bug' unless you mean it!

Ants

Order: Hymenoptera

Family: Formicidae

Identification: Elbowed antennae and a narrow waist.

Butterflies and Moths

Order: Lepidoptera

Identification: Four large wings covered by scales. Antennae tend to be club-shaped in butterflies and feathery in moths.

Notes: The adult form of our caterpillar friends!

Beetles

Order: Coleoptera

Identification: One pair of membranous wings that are only visible in flight covered by a pair of hardened wings that cover the abdomen.

Notes: Look for the straight line down the back of the abdomen!