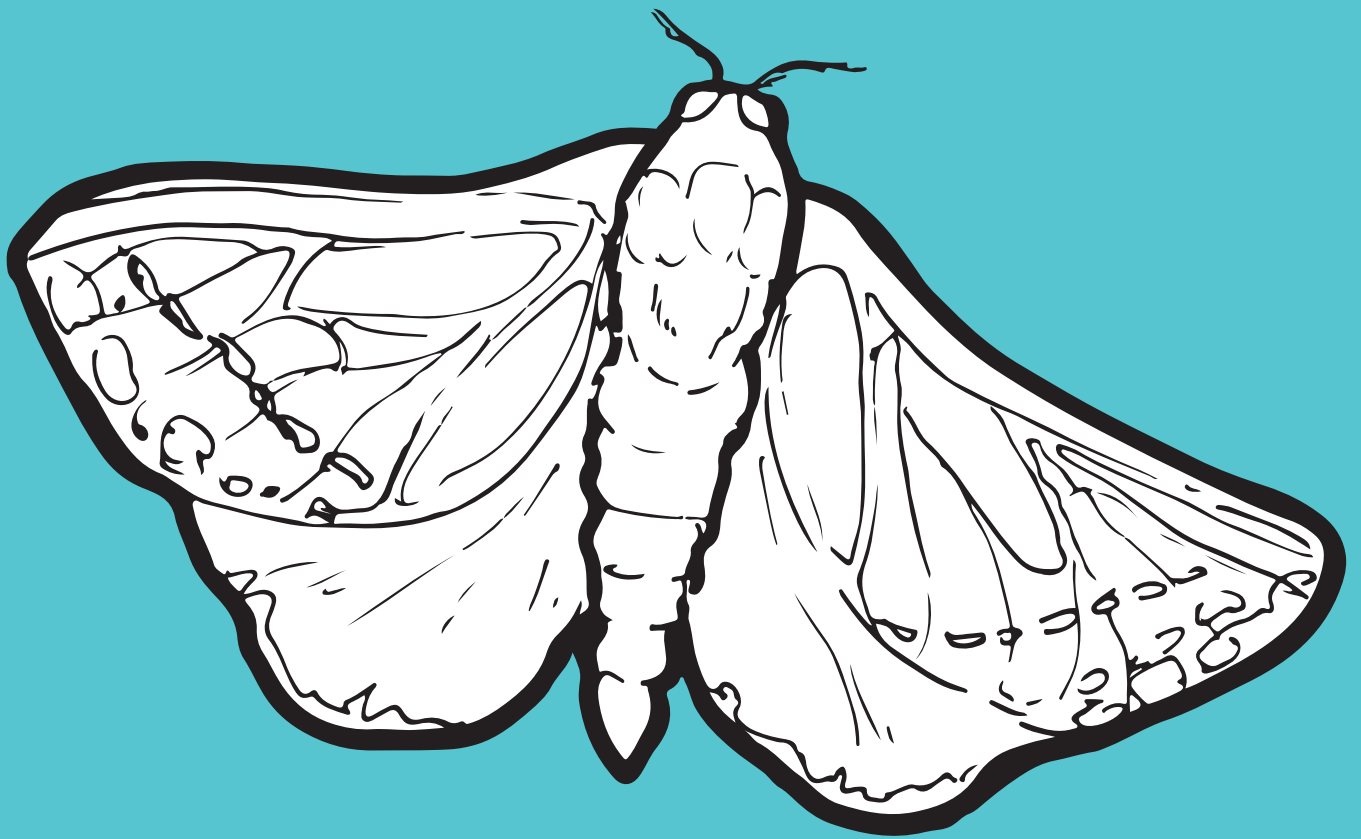


# Auckland Zoo Education Pack

## Primary



**Theme: Bugs**

# Zoo Lesson plan

## Theme:

Primary (ages 5-11) **BUGS**

## What will I learn:

We share our world with a variety of important insects that are sometimes found in our gardens.

### Inspire

**Find out about some of our special bugs here at Auckland Zoo!**

You can learn about the [bizarre and beautiful stick insects](#), the [strangely beautiful spiders](#), or a [very special insect!](#)

Listen to a story about [ants](#).

Learn a new māori song about a butterfly [Pūrerehua](#).

### Create

Make a [weta hotel](#) for your locals

Make a [butterfly](#) to hang up in the window, you could even work with others to create a chain of butterflies!

Solve the **Bug Riddles** and have a go at making your own to share with family (resource attached).

Create some [natural insect artwork](#) using materials found in your backyard or neighbourhood. Are you an expert? Create a native insect and then research some interesting facts to share along with your creative artwork photo.

### Explore

**What bugs can you find at home?** Use our [Backyard Bug Hunt](#) to get you started.

After watching this video all about [a simple way to tell insects apart](#) try grouping the bugs you find. Scientists call this classification.

Learn some bug words and solve our [Bugs Wordfind](#) (you could even race someone else!). Do you know them all? Look them up! Choose one of your new words to illustrate.

### Reflect

Watch this video [Should we eat bugs?](#) Reflect on the reasons for eating them, and whether you would ever try a meal made of bugs!

Insects provide ecosystem services (jobs that they help to facilitate as part of the natural cycles on Earth). What are the ways in which insects provide benefits for humans? Watch this video on [Why insects are so important for some ideas](#). Think about pollination, food webs, pest control – can you think of any others?

### Act

Take a [garden insect census](#) to find out what bugs and beetles you have in your backyard. Try using some of the different investigation techniques suggested for more variety.

## Curriculum links:

Lessons include a range of aspects from the main strands of the NZ Curriculum English, the arts, health and physical education, learning languages, mathematics and statistics, science, social science and technology.

They also consider the Key Competencies Thinking, Using language, symbols and text, Managing self, Relating to others, Participating and communicating.

# Bug Riddles

Can you solve these bug riddles?

1

My name means deadly night stinger  
I belong right here you see  
I'm endemic to New Zealand  
My webs can look quite messy  
Through strong silk and careful planning  
I'll have other bugs for tea!

2

We use our giant wings  
to fly around by night  
Native to New Zealand  
Out while the moon is bright  
Together we'll take down  
The tallest Puriri tree  
Our complex life cycle  
Is split up into three  
Grub, then Pupa and then  
we're free!

3

I hatch out from an egg  
Rotten wood is where I stay  
Hiding under cover  
As more and more I weigh  
For a kiwi I might make  
A lovely little snack  
Their long beak can reach me  
Even hiding so far back

4

We won't win any races  
For the speediest bug around  
But I have my spiral shell  
Where different colours can be found  
I'm among the largest in the world  
But still threatened you see  
If my forests are disappearing  
Then you'll no longer find me

5

Out of over 70 species  
I'm the biggest of them all  
Heavier than a sparrow  
So big I have to crawl  
I survived hiding on islands  
Vulnerable to pests  
But Auckland Zoo has helped  
Return numbers to  
their best

## Your Challenge

Have a try making your own "Who am I" riddles – you could research different bugs to find facts to include and play around with wording to make it rhyme for an extra challenge.

Share these riddles at home with your whānau, or with us!  
See if others can guess which bug your riddles are about.