

# INSECT SONG

## Description:

Students learn insect body parts through this active song.

## Objective:

Participants will learn the basic anatomy of insects. Students will prepare for live observations and basic identification of local insects and spiders.

## Standards:

- **SC.2.7.2.C** - Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats. Assessment does not include specific animal and plant names in specific habitats.
- **LAX.1.5** - Acquire new academic and content-specific grade-level vocabulary, relate to prior knowledge, and apply in new situations.

## Materials:

- Video
- Optional: Copies of Lyrics Page

## Background Info:

Insects are the largest group of animals on Earth. About 75% of all the animals on earth are insects. There are about 1 million known species, and scientists are still discovering new species. Butterflies, beetles, ants, flies, grasshoppers, and bees are all insects.

Insects are members of a larger group called **arthropods**. Spiders, ticks, centipedes, lobsters, and crabs are also arthropods. Arthropods have a body that is divided into segments, or sections. They lack a skeleton and instead have a hard exoskeleton to protect their body.

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## Background Info Continued:

Insects are distinct from other arthropods because they have three body segments, six legs, and antennae. (Spiders are distinct in that they have two body segments and eight legs).

The three major body segments of an insect body are the **head**, the **thorax**, and the **abdomen**. The head contains the insect's antennae, mouthparts, and eyes. Adult insects have compound eyes (some also have simple eyes). Compound eyes have many lenses.

The thorax has three pairs of legs. Many insects also have wings attached to their thorax. Most insects with wings have two pairs although some only have one pair. For example, butterflies, bees, ladybugs, and even grasshoppers have two pairs of wings. Flies have only one pair of wings, and most ants have no wings at all. All of these insects have six legs (three pairs).

The abdomen is made up of as many as 11 segments. It contains organs that digest food, push out waste, and help the insect reproduce.

*Fun Fact: The Nebraska state insect is the honeybee.*

## Activity:

1. Watch the video of the *Head, Thorax, Abdomen* song.
2. Sing the song with the students several times until they learn it. As you sing, move your hands to point to where the body parts would be on an insect.
3. Mix it up – try singing the song very fast, very quiet, very loud, etc.

## Assessment:

- Students ability to sing the insect song.
- If you would like an additional assessment, ask students to draw an insect and label the body parts.

# INSECT SONG: LYRIC PAGE



## Head, Thorax, Abdomen

*Sung to the tune of Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes*

Head, thorax, abdomen, abdomen.

Head, thorax, abdomen, abdomen.

Six legs, antennae, and compound eyes,

Head, thorax, abdomen, abdomen.

Head, thorax, abdomen, abdomen.

Head, thorax, abdomen, abdomen.

Six legs, antennae, and compound eyes,

Head, thorax, abdomen, abdomen.

Head, thorax, abdomen, abdomen.

Head, thorax, abdomen, abdomen.

Six legs, antennae, and compound eyes,

Head, thorax, abdomen, abdomen.

