

# Build Your Own Insect

Insects are characterized by having:

- An Exoskeleton
- A segmented body divided into three parts
- One pair of antennae
- Three pairs of legs
- Wings (usually but not always)

Working with a partner or by yourself, follow the steps below to build your own unique insect. You will need a single dice to complete this activity. **Roll the dice only once for each body part.** The number you roll each turn will determine each of the body parts for your unique insect.

## Insect Head

### A. Antennae

1. Flabellate (fan-like)
2. Geniculate (hinged or bent like an elbow)
3. Plumose (brush or feather-like)
4. Serrate (sawtoothed)
5. Stylate (ending in a long, slender point)
6. Clavate (gradually clubbed at the end)

Rolled a \_\_\_\_\_

My insect has \_\_\_\_\_ antennae.

### B. Compound Eyes

Odd Number - Eyes on side of the head

Even Number – Eyes on front of head

Rolled a \_\_\_\_\_

My insect has \_\_\_\_\_ compound eyes.

### C. Mouthparts

1. Biting & Chewing (grasshopper)
2. Sipping (nectar) & Chewing (pollen) (bees)
3. Probing & Sipping (butterflies)
4. Sponging & Lapping (houseflies)
5. Piercing & Sucking (aphids)
6. Boring (beetle)

Rolled a \_\_\_\_\_

My insect has \_\_\_\_\_ mouthparts.

## Insect Thorax

### D. Legs

1. Digging legs
2. Predatory (Grasping) legs
3. Jumping legs
4. Swimming legs
5. Running-Walking legs
6. Predatory (Clasping) legs

Rolled a \_\_\_\_\_

My insect has \_\_\_\_\_ legs.

### E. Wings

1. No wings
2. Elytra (wings are hardened, beetle)
3. Lepidoptera (scaled wings, butterfly)
4. Tegmina (wings like parchment, grasshopper)
5. Membranous (thin & transparent, dragonfly)
6. Hemelytra (thick and leathery, cotton bug)

Rolled a \_\_\_\_\_

My insect has \_\_\_\_\_ wings.

## Draw your insect below

Remember your insect has a segmented body divided into three parts – make sure you are attaching each of your selected body part to the correct part of the insect.

You have just created your own unique insect! and now you need to name it.

I am proud to introduce you to:

Help us get to know your new insect creation.

1. Based on your insect's mouthparts, what does your insect eat?
2. What are some predators your insect might have?
3. What type of habitat does your insect enjoy?
4. Does your insect use pheromones? What type? And how?
5. Give three other interesting details you gave your insect
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.

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