Insects are the largest and most important group of animals on Earth. There may be as many as 10 million different species alive today!

1. **Flutter and Flap**
   - Climb the stairs near the shop and pass the beehive room. Now turn right along the corridor to find the bug displays.
   - Look at the beautiful butterflies and moths.
   - Draw the pattern of your favourite butterfly or moth wing here:
   - Can you find one that is your favourite colour?
   - What do all of them have in common?

2. **Radical ’Roaches**
   - Look at the large cockroach model and the live cockroaches in the tank on your left.
   - Why do you think they have such hairy, prickly legs?
   - What do they eat? Look inside the tank for clues!
   - Why do you think cockroaches are so important for planet Earth?

3. **Fantastic Fleas**
   - Look at the fleas display. Are these facts true or false? Tick the box.
     - The plague flea can jump 20cms higher than the human flea.
     - Male fleas consume more blood than female fleas.
     - It takes a flea up to 10 minutes to finish their meal of blood.

4. **Bug Play Time**
   - Find the collection of bug toys in the low cabinets on your left.
   - Discuss with a friend. Which do you like most? Why? Have you ever had a toy like any of these?
Did you know...

... there are over 370,000 different species of beetle in the world?

5 Investigate Insects

Although there are as many as 10 million different species of insect, they all have some things in common.

**Tick** the correct boxes.

*All insects...*

- have 6 legs ☐  
- live on land ☐  
- can fly ☐

- have 3 main body parts ☐  
- have jointed legs ☐

- eat plants ☐  
- have a hard body ☐  
- have yellow eyes ☐

Can you find any insects that break your rules?

Find a bug that is **not** an insect.

6 Forest Forage

Find the forest floor, in the **Camouflage and Mimicry** display.

How many insects can you find? __________

Which is the easiest to spot?

Which is the hardest?

Discuss with a friend why you think this is.

6 Awesome Arachnid

Can you find the live **tarantula** in the tank?

This spider has lots of special features that make it an excellent predator and a great defender.

**Match** the body features to their purpose.

**Large fangs**  
**Feel vibrations from prey on the ground.**

**Hairy body**  
**Looking out for predators**

**Eyes on top of the head**  
**Crush prey**

8 Star Bug!

Choose the best bug you've seen in the museum today.

**Draw** your star bug in the box.

**Look** carefully at its special features.

**Discuss** with a friend: why should it become **star bug of the week**?

What makes your bug so special?

This bug is nominated for **star bug of the week** because...

Don't forget to...

... have a good look at the live bugs as you explore the Museum. Can you find...

... a **giant millipede**?  
... a **mantis**?  
... the **live bee hive**?