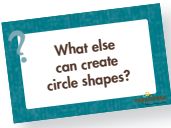






















Bugs & Crawly Things










WEEK 1 BACKYARD BUGS

STEAM STATION	YOUR SUPPLIES	BIG QUESTION AND INSPIRATION PHOTOS	TEACHER TIPS
LESSON 1 What Makes Spots? <small>MR 7 Logic & Reasoning CA 3 Visual Arts</small>	Circular items: lids, cups, bottle caps Paper Plates of paint	 	Set out a variety of circular items on a table. Place paper and plates of paint on the table for children to explore creating circular shapes. If desired, set out leaves or other materials for children to stamp onto.
LESSON 2 Spider Web Zone <small>MR 7 Logic & Reasoning PD 2 Fine Motor</small>	Yarn pieces Tape Toy spiders or pompoms	 	Tape pieces of yarn on the floor to create a web. Invite children to build on or inside the spider web. Set out play spider toys or pompoms, if desired.
LESSON 3 Measure My Hop <small>MR 4 Measurement PD 1 Gross Motor</small>	Chalk	 	Draw a line with chalk on the ground for children to stand on. Encourage them to jump as far as they can then mark their jumps with chalk. Write their names next to their chalk mark, if desired.
LESSON 4 Ant Families <small>MR 6 Classification SCI 4 Technology</small>	Bin Variety of beans Tweezers Bowls or plates	 	Fill a bin with different types of beans. Set out bowls or plates and encourage children to use tweezers to sort the different bean “ant families.”
LESSON 5 Pollination <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science CA 4 Drama</small>	Pompom Pipecleaners Crushed cereal of different types Muffin cups	 	Finely crush cereal and put each type into a muffin cup. Wrap three pipecleaners around a pompom to create a “bee” with six “legs” and invite children to dip the bee into each type of “pollen.” Encourage them to explore how the “pollen” can transfer from one flower to another.

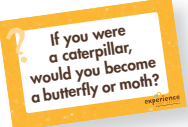





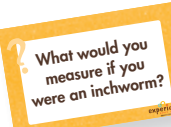
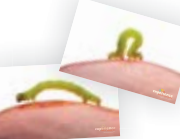
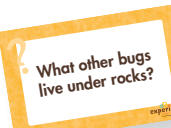

WEEK 2 BUG HOMES

LESSON 6 Nature Bugs <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry CA 3 Visual Arts</small>	Nature items Tray Photos of insects or insect books Tape	 	Set out a variety of nature items on a tray. Tape photos of insects up on a nearby wall or set out insect books for children to reference. Encourage children to create insects with the nature items. Take photos of their creations, if desired.
LESSON 7 Worm Tunnels <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry CA 4 Drama</small>	Cardboard tubes Bowl Yarn pieces	 	Set out different lengths and sizes of cardboard tubes. Set out a bowl of “worms” (pieces of yarn). Encourage children to build tunnels with the tubes for worms to travel through.
LESSON 8 Sand Mounds <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science MR 7 Logic & Reasoning</small>	Bin of sand Cup Lids Cardboard tubes Spray bottle with water	 	Fill a bin with sand and a spray bottle with water. Put a cup, lids and cardboard tubes in the bin and encourage children to cover them with sand to create mounds or hills. Spray the sand to create different textures. If desired, add dried beans to be ants or other insects.
LESSON 9 Web Tie <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science SED 4 Social Relationships</small>	Basket String-like material: yarn, fabric, rope	 	Set out a basket of different string-like materials. Encourage children to work together to tie the different materials together to create one long piece. Explore how to create a web by draping or wrapping the tied pieces.
LESSON 10 Honey for Sale <small>SCI 4 Technology SS 2 Civics & Economics</small>	Clear containers Bin of yellow scrap paper Tongs Paper Marker		Set out clear containers and a bin full of yellow scrap paper with tongs. Encourage children to use the tongs to fill the containers with torn paper scrap “honey.” Help children make a sign with words such as “Honey for sale” or “Honey \$1.” Set out play money, if desired.

WEEK 3 CAMOUFLAGE BUGS

STEAM STATION	YOUR SUPPLIES	BIG QUESTION AND INSPIRATION PHOTOS	TEACHER TIPS
LESSON 11 Butterfly Wings <small>MR 2 Spatial Awareness CA 3 Visual Arts</small>	Paper Pencil Paint Paintbrushes	 	Set out paint, brushes and sheets of paper folded in half. Draw a half butterfly with the center along the fold and invite children to paint it. Unfold the paper, then encourage children to fold their painted half onto the unpainted half. Unfold again to reveal a whole butterfly.
LESSON 12 Moth Wings <small>SCI 3 Physical Science PD 2 Fine Motor</small>	Clear zip bags Textured items: pompoms, beans, leaves	 	Fill clear zip bags with different textured items then tie the center with a pipecleaner or rubber band. Leave some empty bags for children to fill themselves with items of their choice.
LESSON 13 Leaf Prints <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry PD 2 Fine Motor</small>	Leaves Paper Crayons	 	Set out a variety of leaves, paper and crayons. Encourage children to create leaf prints by placing a leaf under the paper then rubbing a crayon over it.
LESSON 14 Bug Map <small>MR 2 Spatial Awareness SS 3 Geography</small>	Simple map Bug figurines or photos of bugs Tape Red marker		Draw a simple map of the outdoor area. Place bug figurines (or print off photos of bugs then tape them to blocks) outside in a few different areas. Mark the map with a big red X where you placed the bugs. Encourage children to look at the map then go for a bug hunt.
LESSON 15 Wooden Structures <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry PD 2 Fine Motor</small>	Wooden building materials; dowels, blocks, sticks, twigs	 	Set out wooden building materials in the block area. Encourage children to explore building structures with the materials.

WEEK 4 CRAWLY THINGS

LESSON 16 Threading Caterpillars <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry CA 3 Visual Arts</small>	Items with holes: beads, tube pasta, buttons, hole-punched leaves Pipecleaners	 	Set out a variety of items with holes. Set out pipecleaners for children to thread the items onto. Encourage them to create a caterpillar family.
LESSON 17 Slug Slime Bags <small>SCI 3 Physical Science PD 2 Fine Motor</small>	One-gallon zip bags Hair gel Flour Water Food coloring Tape	 	For each sensory bag, mix together 1 cup of flour, 6 tablespoons of water and 2 drops of food coloring in a one-gallon clear zip bag. Secure the zipper end with tape. Another option is to put hair gel in clear zip bags.
LESSON 18 Block Bugs <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science MR 7 Logic & Reasoning</small>	Yarn Twigs Pipecleaners Paper plates Word Wall Vocabulary Strips*	 	Set out a variety of materials to build bugs in the block area such as yarn, twigs, pipecleaners and paper plates (cut in halves or quarters for wings). Set out the Vocabulary Strips to help children decide on a bug.
LESSON 19 Inchworm Measure <small>MR 4 Measurement SCI 4 Technology</small>	Measuring tapes or rulers Yarn Scissors	 	Set out measuring tapes or rulers, yarn and child-friendly scissors. Encourage children to measure the yarn then cut pieces to make long and short inchworms.
LESSON 20 Under Rocks <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry SED 3 Attention & Persistence</small>	Rocks Small items: figurines, yarn pieces, pictures	 	Gather different-sized rocks and place them outside. Put a small item (figurine, piece of yarn, picture) under each one. Encourage children to look under the rocks to find "bugs." Explain that centipedes can be found in dark, damp places, e.g., under rocks or logs.

Set-Up Directions

These open-ended STEAM stations invite children to investigate, problem-solve and create.

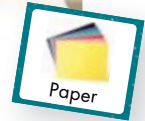
- Hang the Big Question and Inspiration Photos on the wall next to the place you set up the investigation.
- Use the labels to identify and organize materials children will use (and clean up) as they explore STEAM stations.

ROTATING YOUR STATIONS

- Introduce one new STEAM station daily. Leave that station set up all week. By the end of the week, children will have five stations to explore.




? Can you make a whole butterfly from half a butterfly?



STEAM stations integrate perfectly with the monthly Experience Preschool Curriculum kits for a comprehensive research-based early learning system. Learn more and start your research-based curriculum today.

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**What else
can create
circle shapes?**



**Can you
help make
a spider web?**



**How far can
you jump?**



**What do you
think ant families
do together?**



**Can you move
pollen from one
place to another?**



**What will you
use to create
a bug?**



**Do you think
worm tunnels
keep worms safe?**



**Why do you
think ants
build anthills?**



**Can you help
make a web?**



**Where might
you buy honey?**



**Can you make
a whole butterfly
from half
a butterfly?**




**What colors
do you see in
the moth wings?**




**What leaf
shape or color
is your favorite?**



**What else can
you find
using a map?**




**What kind
of structure
will you build?**




**If you were
a caterpillar,
would you become
a butterfly or moth?**



**What happens
to gel when you
add food coloring?**



**What is the most
unusual bug
you've seen?**



**What would you
measure if you
were an inchworm?**



**What other bugs
live under rocks?**

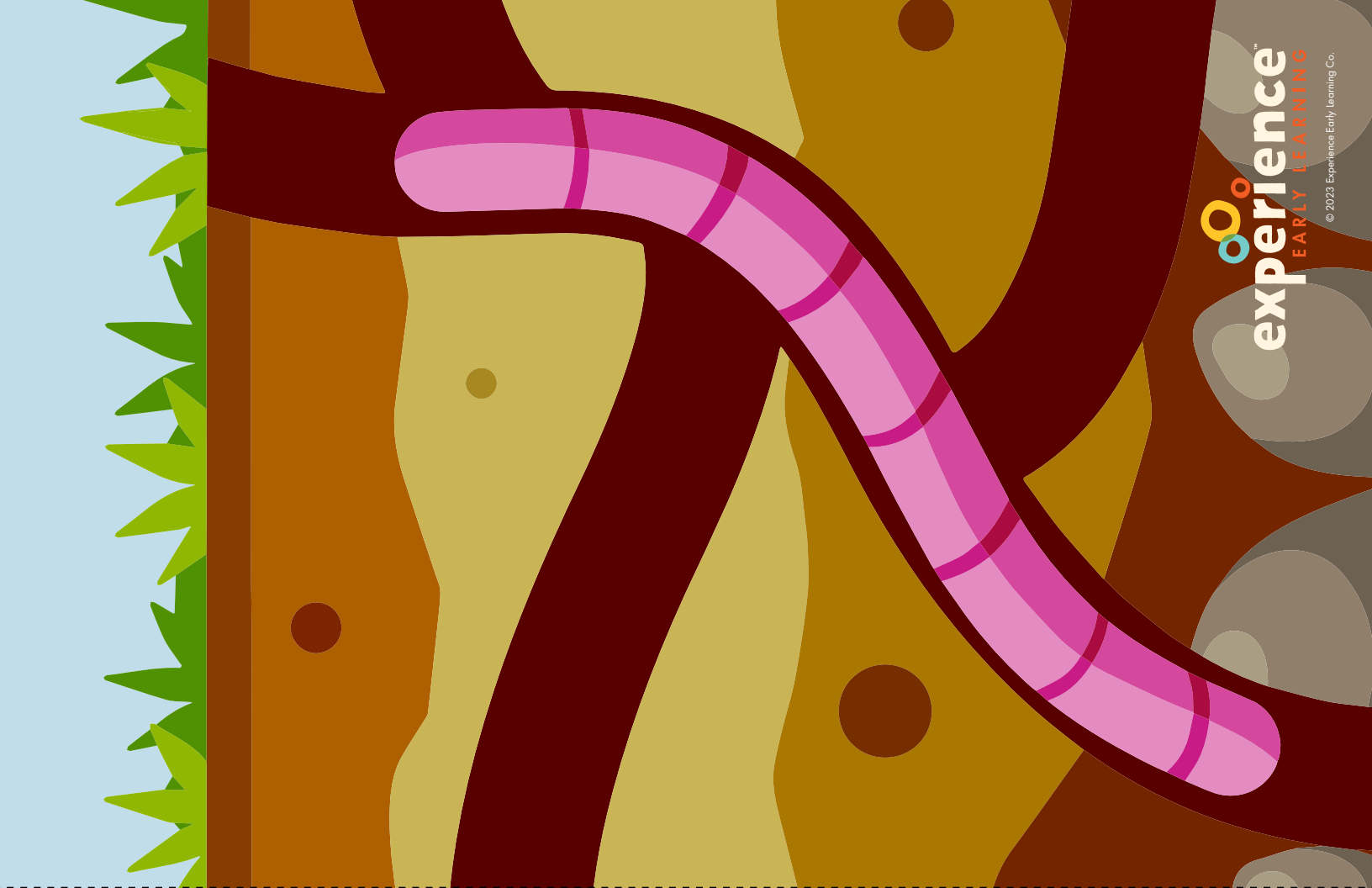


















LEAVES





 **experience**
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Caterpillars







gettyimages
Lyudmila Lucienne


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Circular Items



Paper Plates



Paint



Yarn



Tape



Toy Spiders



Pompoms



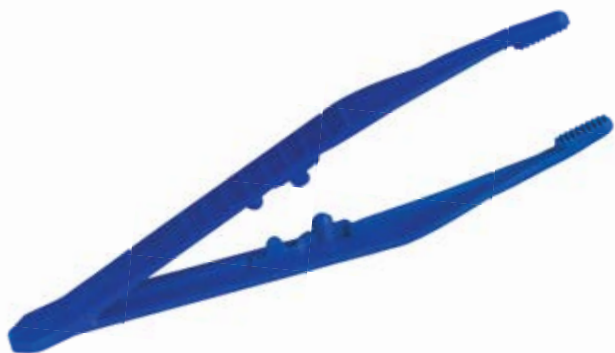
Chalk



Bins



Beans



Tweezers



Bowls



Plates



Pipecleaners



Cereal



Muffin Cups



Nature Items



Trays



Insect Books
or Photos



Cardboard Tubes



Sand



Cups



Lids



Spray Bottles



Water



Baskets



String-like Materials



Containers



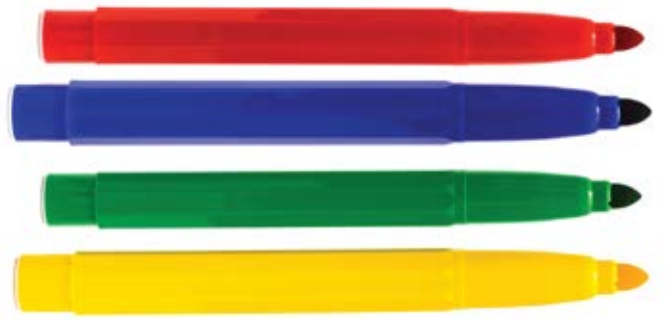
Scrap Paper



Tongs



Paper



Markers



Pencils



Paintbrushes



Clear Zip Bags



Textured Items



Leaves



Crayons



Maps



Bug Figurines



Wooden Building
Materials



Items with Holes



Hair Gel



Flour



Food Coloring



Twigs



Measuring Tapes



Rulers



Scissors



Rocks



Small Items