



INSECT STUDY

Merit Badge Rally

October 16, 2021

WELCOME: Hello Scouts! Please read all the information below. This information will help you get prepared for your class and be successful in earning your Insect Study Merit Badge. Insect Study requirements are listed below. There are some pre-requisites that need to be done prior to **your**

Class on October 16th. Read and prepare as noted for each requirement before the session.

Insect Study Workbook : <http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/Insect-Study.pdf> . This workbook should be saved to your device and used to record your work on.

INSECT STUDY MERIT BADGE PAMPHLET: If you need a copy of the pamphlet you can ...

1. Ask your Scoutmaster if they have one in their Library
2. Check your local Council store
3. Purchase a digital download at <https://www.scoutshop.org/>.

ZOOM CLASS SESSION: There is **NO ZOOM Class** for this Merit Badge. But it is very important that you do the preparation for this badge so you can participate and share your experiences regarding insect study.

MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR: Questions? Contact Ms. Elizabeth Wright - brookelinn_02@hotmail.com

NOTE: Your instructor will be keeping track of what everyone completes on a requirements sheet. That sheet is turned into Gamehaven, and blue cards are sent out via email to the main contact on the registration.

PRE-REQUIREMENTS: - Please read the Insect Study Merit Badge Pamphlet and download and print the workbook to bring to Class. The workbook is a fillable PDF, so it is very easy to add your notes and information onto the workbook.

- **Requirement 1:** Do the Following to prepare for class discussion
 - a. Explain to your counselor the most likely hazards associated with exposure to ants and bees and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.
 - b. Discuss the prevention of and treatment for health concerns that could occur while working with ants and bees, including insect bites and anaphylactic shock.
- **Requirement 2,3, & 4:** Familiarize yourself with these requirements and be prepared to discuss in class
- **Requirement 5:** Observe 20 different live species of insects in their habitat. In your observation, include at least four orders of insects. Make a scrapbook of these that include photos, sketches, pictures, and articles with labels of its common scientific names where possible.
- **Requirement 8:** Familiarize yourself with this requirement and be prepared to discuss in class
- **Requirement 9:** Raise an insect through complete metamorphosis from its larva stage to its adult stage. Moth or butterfly option. You can buy a hornworm at Petco and just raise one there and let it

go when finished as they are common. Lot of people do monarchs too, which is great for the environment and monarch populations. Quite common with the milkweeds.

- **Requirement 10:** Do ONE of the following
 - a. Observe an ant colony in a formicarium (Ant farm). Find the queen and worker ant. Explain to your counselor the different chambers found within an ant colony.
 - b. Study a hive of bees. Remove the combs and find the queen. Estimate the amount of brood and count the number of queen cells. Explain how to determine the amount of honey in the hive. NOTE: Quarry Hill has this or local beekeepers that I am sure would be happy to help with enough notice.
- **Requirements 11, 12 & 13:** Familiarize yourself with these requirements and be prepared to discuss in class

Websites that can help with your requirements:

- Bug Guide net : www.bugguide.net - great to determine identities
- Entomological Society: <https://www.entsoc.org/>
- American Beekeeping Federation: <https://www.abfnet.org/>