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scientists study insects from all over the world alive and extinct to understand how insects have changed over time they examine key features that we learned about today to learn more about these insects and their habitats behaviors what they eat and even what other insects they re related to insects have segmented bodies jointed legs and exoskeletons they are distinguished from other arthropods by their body which has three major regions the head the three segmented thorax and the many segmented abdomen insects from latin insectum are hexapod invertebrates of the class insecta they are the largest group within the arthropod phylum insects have a chitinous exoskeleton a three part body head thorax and abdomen three pairs of jointed legs compound eyes and a pair of antennae physical characteristics insects are at once entirely familiar yet completely alien their jaws work from side to side not up and down insect eyes if present are each unblinking and composed of dozens hundreds or even thousands of individual lenses collecting and identifying insects requires a basic understanding of insect anatomy morphology development and physiology digestion reproduction nervous system circulation and respiration as well as behavior we shall begin with how to distinguish an insect from its close relatives the first three groups of animals evolved their wings from arms making these wings straightforward to understand as other similar animals have analogous bones and musculature insect wings however have no muscles or nerves scientists at the university of bristol have uncovered the deadly workings of a carnivorous plant in the steaming jungles of borneo plants have evolved innumerable tricks to help them survive extinct and endangered insects in peril from bees to butterflies insects help keep natural ecosystems healthy but the evidence is clear many insect species are in decline experience these tiny animals outsized impact on our planet through the uniquely powerful macrophotography of levon biss which highlights 40 incredible but imperiled insects are invertebrates with three pairs of legs a three part body head thorax and abdomen compound eyes and one pair of antennae insects are the most diverse group of animals they include more than a million found species and represent more than half of all known living organisms how does an insect circulatory system work how is insect blood different from our own do insects have hearts indeed insects do have hearts this might come as a surprise given the differences in anatomical structure between insect hearts and those of more familiar animals like humans in this creative activity learners will find out what makes an insect an insect by studying examples of insect adaptations and by examining why there are so many different types of insects learners will also design their own insect based on the needs of a specific environment insects are animals that have roamed the earth for at least 300 million years so they have been around way before dinosaurs dinosaurs are extinct but insects are still with us and some have changed very little since the days of the dinosaurs insects are filled with protein micronutrients and energy they will also discuss how some of these insects are a delight and have all these elements of energy and proteins they will also talk about the history of insect eating in some nations and contrasting those with nations that did not have the same history of insect eating the slender pitcher plant nepenthes gracilis is amongst the most ingenious its elaborate cup shaped leaves are equipped with a canopy like hanging lid that turns into a deadly springboard for science project build an insect model bring all of those really bad horror movies to life by creating a giant insect but your insect will serve the powers of good good science that is insects come in many different shapes and sizes a grasshopper is an

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