

The Early Years Count Literacy Connection



The Bug Book

Written and Illustrated by
Sue Fliess

Infant/Toddler edition

Overview of Book

Bugs, bugs everywhere! There are big bugs and small bugs, creeping bugs and flying bugs. Grab your bucket and explore the dirt as well as the sky. Filled with photographs, *The Bug Book* offers an up-close look at all kinds of insects.

Genre: Non-fiction; Informational

Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some words from *The Bug Book* to introduce in your classroom:

creep	sticky
squirm	slime
bumpy	swish
glide	

Each time you read the book, highlight 2 or 3 words.

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or refer to the illustrations to help children understand each word's meaning.

Use the new words throughout the day, reminding children, "That's a word from our story!"

Connecting with HighScope Curriculum

COR Advantage 1.5

Language, Literacy
and Communication
Item Q (*Book enjoyment
and knowledge*)

Science and
Technology
Item BB (*Observing and
classifying*)

Science and
Technology
Item DD (*Natural and
physical world*)

Reading Tips

This is a fun book to read in a singsong voice. Take time on each page to look at the pictures and compare the bugs that are being shown. (For example, on page 2 you might ask, "Which bug do you think flies fast? Which bug do you think flies slow?")

Read the book outside, sitting on the grass and see if the children see any bugs while you are reading the story.

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. During each reading the adult can introduce new vocabulary words, pose open-ended questions, and engage children in activities that make the story "come alive."

Throughout the Routine

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

During **Large Group**, have the children pretend to be the different types of bugs as you read the story.

At **Outside Time** take the book and some magnifying glasses. The children can look for bugs outside and try to match them to the pictures of bugs in the book.

During **transitions**, move like the different types of bugs in the book.

Around the Room

Highlight the book's content and build on the children's excitement in a variety of locations.

In the **Book Area**, leave a basket of magnifying glasses so children can look more closely at the bugs in the book.

Put *The Bug Book* on display in the book area so the children can easily find it on their own.

Label and display other types of bugs throughout the room. Add more as children's interest expands.

Open-ended Questions

Enhance active engagement and early critical thinking skills by asking open-ended questions. These "wondering aloud" questions support children's developing focus and attention as they encourage young children's capacity to make connections and see possibilities.

Here are some questions you might ask for *this book*:

What types of bugs do you think we will see in this book?

What is your favorite type of bug?

What are some types of fast bugs?

What sounds have you heard bugs make?

*For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact **The Family Connection:***

website—
www.famconn.org

Facebook—
[@famconnsjc](https://www.facebook.com/famconnsjc)

phone—
574-237-9740

@ Home

Since many children in our county will have this book at home, use it to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share *The Bug Book* with their children. Here's a sample message you can send:

The Bug Book is filled with lots of wonderful up-close pictures that you and your child can enjoy together. It is also rich with descriptive words such as *creep, sticky, squirm, slime, bumpy, swish, and glide*. See if you can use some of these words with your child during other parts of your day.

When you are reading this book with your child, take plenty of time to look closely at the pictures. Notice colors and patterns, similarities and differences. Does your child recognize any of these bugs? Don't forget to emphasize the rhymes in this book and have some fun while reading!