

What Can Insects Do?



What Can Insects Do? Teachers' Notes

Learning objective: Year 1, 7a: Find specific information in simple texts

Key words: these, their, some, makes

Cross-curricular/theme links: Science, insects

Genre: Non-fiction

NC level: Approximately Level 1C-1B

Assessment: AF2, Level 1: Some pages/sections of interest located

Word count: 158

Getting started

Look at the cover together, and ask: 'What insects can you think of?' Make a list of different insects that the children have heard of. Flip through the book to see whether any of the insects the children have thought of are included.

Speaking and listening

- Before reading the book, talk about the question in the book's title. Can the children think of anything that insects can do? Do they think that different insects can do different things? Talk about some of the insects children mentioned earlier – what can each of these do?

Guided reading

Pages 2-3: Check if the children are familiar with all the insects on these pages. If necessary, support them to read the insect names.

Pages 4-15: Remind the children to use their phonic knowledge to help them tackle unfamiliar words, by sounding out and blending the sounds all through the words. If necessary, support them to read any words that they can't tackle through phonics alone. Pause at each spread to talk about the insect in the picture and check that the children have understood the text. Which of the insects in the book do the children think is the most interesting?

Page 16: Challenge the children to use the pictures on this page to help them locate the names of the insects pictured, by finding the pictures in the main body of the book.

After reading

Use these questions to help children talk about the text.

- Can you name four different things that insects can do?
- Were you surprised by any of the things that the insects could do?
- Which of the insects in the book have you seen? Are there any that you haven't seen?

Reading into writing

Children could do some simple research about another insect that isn't featured in the book, and draw a picture and write a caption about it.

Book quiz for children

- 1 Which insects can make a chirping sound with their wings?
- 2 Which insects are particularly good at carrying things?
- 3 What special thing can a firefly do?

Support for less confident readers

Give plenty of support when less confident readers are tackling the less familiar insect names in this text.

Extension for more confident readers

The children could choose the insect that interests them most and do some additional research about it, using books or the internet. They could make a factfile or an information poster about their chosen insect.