

To bug lovers everywhere,
especially Fionn, Cillian and Nat.

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS
Bloomsbury Publishing Plc
50 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3DP, UK

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First published in Great Britain 2020 by Bloomsbury Publishing Plc

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A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN: HB: 978-1-5266-0950-2; PB: 978-1-5266-0951-9; eBook: 978-1-5266-1864-1

2 4 6 8 10 9 7 5 3 1 (hardback), 2 4 6 8 10 9 7 5 3 1 (paperback)

Printed and bound in China by Leo Paper Products, Heshan, Guangdong

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DO YOU LOVE BUGS?



Matt Robertson

BLOOMSBURY
CHILDREN'S BOOKS
LONDON OXFORD NEW YORK NEW DELHI SYDNEY



SOME HAVE TWO EYES. SOME HAVE FIVE.

Some are **fuzzy** and **hairy**, others are simply **slimy**. Bugs can fly, crawl, wriggle and even **SOMERSAULT**! Many people are **afraid** of bugs. They flee when they see an ant ... **ARRRRGH!** They feel sick when they see a stick insect ... **EWW!**

But bugs should be **LOVED**, because they are **REALLY** important. Without bees, we wouldn't have lots of plants. Spiders do good deeds to help farmers grow their fruit and vegetables. And ants ... well, those tough little bugs have been around since the **DINOSAURS!** That makes ants **AWESOME**.

To love a bug, remember these golden rules. Bugs are everywhere after all.

- Be careful not to bother bees.
- Show respect for the stick insect.
- No need to squirm when you see a worm.
- Give spiders a smile not a scream.
- Always be good to grasshoppers.
- Take care to step over a snail.
- Try not to bat butterflies and never make fun of moths.
- No need to dodge dragonflies.
- Never get angry at ants ...

Bees

WHY IS THAT BEE BUZZING ABOUT?

Because it's busy looking for sweet nectar, of course. **YUMMY!** Bees don't just make **honey**, they are very important for our planet. As they move from one flower to another, they collect and spread a yellow dust called **pollen** that helps to make new seeds. If bees didn't do this, there would be no new flowers, plants, fruit and vegetables.

So be careful not to bother bees!

SUPER VISION

Bumblebees and honey bees have **five** eyes. They have two big ones and three small ones.



BEE BOOGIE

Honey bees communicate with each other by dancing.





HONEY BEE

Honey bees have long, **thin** bodies and live in a hive. They are the only bees that can make honey!

BUMBLEBEE

Bumblebees have **thick**, round bodies and live in the ground. Most have black and yellow stripes, but their bottoms can be red, white, brown or yellow.









When winter comes, some bees hide in old mouse holes to keep warm. Brrr!

Stick Insects

IS IT A LEAF? IS IT A TWIG? NO. IT'S A STICK INSECT!

Stick insects are the **LONGEST** bugs on our planet, but they can be the hardest to spot. Some look like bright green leaves, others look like thin brown twigs. And they rest all day, which means you will rarely see one move.

So show respect for the stick insect!

The world's longest stick insect is 62 centimetres long – that's probably about twice the length of your arm!

Watch a stick insect rock side to side like it's dancing. Lalalala!

Stick insects have been flown to new countries in planes.

If I feel scared I let off a rotten smell – poooeey!

Stinky

Can you spot the stick insect?

Not me!

Try again!

You got me!

Nope!

MASTER OF DISGUISE

Stick insects make a tasty snack for birds, so they must blend in with their surroundings to **protect** themselves. Some can even change colour!

NOM. NOM. NOM

Stick insects **love** plants. Their favourite leaves to munch on are **bramble**, **oak** and **hazel** leaves.

I love you!

Someone's bitten my leg off!

Pick your favourite stick insect.

OUCH!

If a bird attacks, stick insects **RUUUUN**! Oh dear, this one lost its leg while escaping! Don't worry, the legs of young stick insects quickly grow back.

Stick insects are SUPER!

Worms

WORMS CAN JIGGLE, TWIST, SLIIIITHER AND SOMERSAULT!

Wiggly earthworms love **digging** and **chomping** through the ground, which keeps the soil healthy, helping things to grow. Worms are also male and female at the same time and although they may seem slimy, they're actually covered in tiny hairs that help them move through the soil. They are **SUPER-BUGS!**

So no need to squirm when you SEE A WORM!

Worms can have up to FIVE hearts.

Hello!

YUMMY!

Birds tap on the ground to mimic rain and trick worms into coming out so they can **EAT** them up!

7 metres

Wiggle wiggle.

5.5 metres

BIG AND TALL

One of the biggest earthworms is the **African Giant**. It has been known to grow up to **seven metres**, which is taller than a **giraffe**!

1.15 metres

There can be over a million worms in an area the size of a football pitch.

Worms **ARE NOT** picky eaters. They will eat **ANYTHING**.

GRASS	LEAVES	ROTTEN FRUIT	DEAD ANIMALS
CHEWY	CRUNCHY	MOULDY	SMELLY

Watch out! You may just find a worm in your apple!

I'm stuffed.

HUNGRY WORM

Worms eat so much that the soil is full of their poo. This helps plants grow.

Poo!

Mole

I eat worms.

WOW!

Worms have existed since before dinosaurs! We know this because scientists have found worm **fossils**.

Fossil

Worms are WONDERFUL!

Worms love to stick together.

Spiders

SPIDERS ARE THE MOST AMAZING BUGS IN THE WHOLE WIDE WEB!

These **eight-legged** friends come in so many shapes and sizes. Some are BIG and **FURRY** and others are tiny and crawl about in a hurry. They can live **anywhere**, so you might not be too far from one now. Don't be scared! They may have beady eyes and sharp fangs, but they can also do cool things, like jump up high and even dance.

So give spiders a SMILE not a scream!

I'm stuck!

Most spiders have **EIGHT** eyes. Imagine what their glasses would look like!

EYE SEE YOU!

VEGGIE

The **Bagheera Kiplingi** spider is vegetarian. It looooves flower nectar.

Sweet!

Many spiders can hang on their silk – it looks like they are gliding through the air.

Some spiders can shoot webs out of their bodies.

Arachnophobic means you are **REALLY** scared of spiders.

SPINNING SPIDERS

Spiders **SPIN, SPIN, SPIN** silky webs to catch their dinners. The strength of their webs has been compared to **steel**. That is the material used to make big bridges.

The largest spider in the world is the Goliath birdeater. With a body size of 12 centimetres, it is bigger than both of your hands.

LOVE

Some male spiders give female spiders **gifts** to woo them. A favourite gift is flies!

I'm bubbly!

The diving bell spider lives in a bubble underwater.

SLURP!

When spiders catch their **lunch**, they turn it to mush and slurp it up. **YUK!**

Spiders eat lots of insects that are harmful to plants. Thank you, spiders!

Spiders eat more insects than birds and bats.

Spiders are SPECTACULAR!