



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

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS
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DO YOU LOVE BUGS?



Matt Robertson

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Do you love bugs?

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 ... **EW!**

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 ...

... and **BEWARE** of bashing beetles.

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!

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

SOLD

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.

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.

Pollen baskets

Bumblebees and honey bees store pollen in little pouches on their back legs.

The queen honey bee rules the hive. She gives birth to all the baby bees.

THE LIFE OF A HONEY BEE

How honey is made

Honey bees drink nectar from flowers and keep it in a separate honey stomach.

When their honey stomach is full, they return to the hive and pass the nectar to other bees. As they do this, the nectar turns to honey.

Once the nectar turns to honey, the bees keep it safe in the hive.

Bees have two stomachs, one for storing nectar and one for eating.

Male drone bees help the queen to make baby bees.

Female worker bees protect the hive and look after baby bees. They also collect nectar from flowers and turn it into honey.

HONEY

One bee hive can make 80 jars of honey in a year!

Sweet!

Bees are the BEST!

Bears LOVE honey.

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.

NOM. NOM. NOM

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

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!

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

Stinky

Can you spot the stick insect?

Not me!

Try again!

you got me!

Nope!

Pick your favourite stick insect.

I love you!

Someone's bitten my leg off!

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, SLITHER 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.

YUMMY!

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

Hello!

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

GRASS

LEAVES

ROTTEN
FRUIT

DEAD
ANIMALS

CHEWY

CRUNCHY

MOULDY

SMELLY

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

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!

2.15 metres

I'm stuffed.

HUNGRY WORM

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

I eat worms.

Mole

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!

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

C
KLS
YTAB
AFWD
HMAIP
ORYPA
GUXOEN
ZUGAPFELG

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.

LOVE

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

SLURPI

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

Spiders eat more insects than birds and bats.

Spiders are **SPECTACULAR!**

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.

The diving bell spider lives in a bubble underwater.

I'm bubbly!

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