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Insectography: Insects in the World of Fiction

Erin Bauer

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Master's Project Proposal

Insectography: Insects in the World of Fiction

By Erin Bauer

My proposed Master's Project is to develop a comprehensive list of fictional works (films/TV episodes, video games, children's books, and novels) originally published or produced in the United States between 1950 and 2012 about or including insects, spiders, related arthropods (many times anthropomorphized or mutated) and/or entomologists as main characters and playing a major role in the plot. Although the list will encompass both entertaining and educational works, it will not include textbooks or other non-fictional works. It will also not include "fictionalized" accounts of real processes. For example, a book such as *Hope for the Flowers*, where the story is told from the perspective of the main character, a caterpillar discovering its true nature through metamorphosis, or a book where an insect character learns the importance of friendship, would be included in this list. On the other hand, a book about a child character learning from her parents or teacher in a straightforward manner how a caterpillar turns into a butterfly, would not.

Each main topic area will include bibliographic information about the work, including but not limited to title, author/director, publisher/distributor, and copyright date. Following this will be a detailed description/synopsis of the work with an emphasis on how insects are involved.

Sections of the Insectography project will include:

Bibliography: Children's Books

This list will include selected books about fictional insects/spiders/related arthropods written for older children (in general between the ages of 5-12). Because of the extensive number of insect books written for children, this list will be restricted to fictional books that include an insect or insects as the main character/s (i.e. Kelly Katydid learns a life lesson), rather than realistic representations used in teaching human characters or the reader (i.e. learning to count using ladybugs or learning about the life cycle of an aquatic insect in class). The list will not include books below the kindergarten level or books that are non-fictional instructional guides to insects.

Bibliography: Novels (Adult and Young Adult)

This list will include novels (young adult and adult) that involve insects or entomologists. This might include science fiction depictions that have an insect base.

Filmography

This list will include movies and television shows/episodes featuring insect/spider or entomologist related characters or insects as a main part of the plot. Genres might include

science fiction, sitcoms, animation, etc. but will not include nature programs or other non-fictional depictions.

Video Games

This section will list video games that are about or include insects...both those used strictly for entertainment purposes and those for education. Games in this list will be those that are full length, commercially available and available either free or sold as downloads or physical CDs. They may be developed by universities or other educational institutions, individuals, or companies.

Strategy

The Insectography will be listed alphabetically by type (Bibliography, Filmography, Video Games), subdivided by "Entertainment" or "Educational" where applicable, and finally by author/title, depending on the resource.

To compile the lists, I will search through various online and print resources, including movie and book databases, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, Netflix, library lists (such as bibliographies and filmographies), etc. I will also be able to include books, films, TV shows, and games I have personally seen and reviewed, and possibly interview or consult with librarians, teachers, or bibliographers.

A proposed timeline for this project is to begin summer 2012 and complete by summer 2013.

Background

As someone who has a library background (received my MLIS in 1996), I have always enjoyed bibliographical information. Also having an interest in entomology, I thought it would be fun to pull together a list of pop culture references about insects found in fiction. Being insects are the most diverse animals on this planet, it's also fun to see how they are portrayed (realistically, as monster mutants, or anthropomorphically!) in various media.

Additionally, after creating the Pest Private Eye video game to teach youth about pests and integrated pest management, I began to wonder what all materials about insects were available for children and thought this might be worth exploring.

Although there are numerous small bibliographies of films or books about insects, there does not appear to be a full pop culture list that incorporates all of these media comprehensively within the timeframe of 1950-2012. It is my hope to fill that gap in the literature by offering such a list as a reference to others in the field (or anyone who is interested!)

Outcomes and Future Directions

My hope with this project is to offer a list of insect/entomologist fictional works in one document that will be beneficial to others in the field or the general public. The bibliographic data will provide readers with the references they need to access books, films/TV shows, and video games quickly. It will also increase awareness and publicize some works that may be more obscure or less well known and present them to the public so they can be enjoyed. For parents or teachers, this list will give a good starting point for resources to introduce insects in a fun way.

The portfolio will include the comprehensive Insectography list and perhaps a few “hard copy” examples of materials (i.e. Pest Private Eye Video game). In order to make it readily available to the public, I propose posting it on the UNL Entomology Departmental or similar website after completion. This format would allow direct links to where items can be viewed or purchased (i.e. Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Netflix, etc.), and photographs of the resources could possibly accompany each entry. These additions would greatly enhance the usability of the list.

This project has the potential for further expansion in the future. Additions might include pre 1950 and post 2012 titles, titles geared toward pre-kindergarten age groups, and foreign titles. A comprehensive list of non-fictional works about entomology would also be beneficial to both scientists and the public.

Master’s Project: Insectography: Insects in the World of Fiction

By Erin Bauer

The following bibliography/filmography lists works of fiction (movies, books, video games, TV shows, and other related media) from 1950-2012 that feature insects or entomologists as major characters or plot points. References at the end include locations where these titles may be found for purchase or rental (Amazon.com, Netflix, etc.), and resources I consulted during my research for this project.

Table of Contents

Filmography

- Movies.....5
- TV Episodes, Series, and Movies.....10

Bibliography

- Adult Novels.....14
- Young Adult Novels.....19
- Children’s Fictional Books (ages 5-12)23
- Children/Young Adult Book Series.....51

Miscellaneous other Works

- Video Games.....58
- Cartoons/Comic Strips.....59

References: Databases.....60

References: Specific.....60

Acknowledgements.....62

Final Comments.....62

Movies

The following movies range from B sci-fi insect mutant films from the 1950's to more recent animated or post-apocalyptic features. The majority of these are meant for a teenage-adult audience, but a few animated movies are appropriate for children (if the latter, this is noted in the citation). Some involve anthropomorphized insect characters, others pit man against beast when entomologists or scientists deal with experiments gone wrong or natural disasters where insects have the upper hand. The list is organized alphabetically by director/s, and each entry includes a synopsis of the plot.

Allen, I. (Director). (1978). [*The Swarm*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Warner Brothers.

Synopsis: Invading killer bees wreak havoc on the citizens of North America.

Armstrong, R.K. (Director). (1997). [*Bugged*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Troma Team Video.

Synopsis: Exterminators Dave and Steve fight gigantic insects that have a taste for humans!

Arnold, J. (Director). (1955). [*Tarantula*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Universal Pictures.

Synopsis: Disaster strikes when scientist Leo Carroll accidentally creates a monster spider that wreaks havoc on the human population.

Baker, R.W. (Director). (1950). [*Highly Dangerous*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Lippert Pictures.

Synopsis: British Secret Service agent Frances and American Bill must investigate an East European country where allegedly insects are being used to develop germ-warfare.

Bass, S. (Director). (1974). [*Phase IV*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Paramount Pictures.

Synopsis: After a cosmic event in the desert town of Paradise city, super intelligent, well organized ants begin building vast structures and communicating in a way never seen before. Scientists Ernest Hubbs and James Lesko are called to investigate this strange new behavior.

Brandon, C. (Director). (1994). [*Skeeter*](#) [Motion Picture]. United States: Image Entertainment.

Synopsis: A young couple, in the small town of Mesquite, discovers that toxic waste has created a new species of mosquito intent on destroying mankind.

Cardos, J. (Director). (1977). [*Kingdom of the Spiders*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Dimension Pictures.

Synopsis: A veterinarian and entomologist try to save a town infested by spiders.

Corman, R. & Hill, J. (Director). (1960). [*Wasp Woman*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: The Filmgroup.

Synopsis: Janice Starlin, an aging cosmetics company owner, transforms into a giant wasp after taking a youth rejuvenating potion.

Crane, K.G. (Director). (1958). [*Monster from Green Hell*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Distributors Corporation of America.

Synopsis: When a rocket containing a wasp's nest crashes, the wasps are exposed to radiation from space, and they are transformed into hungry mutant monsters with a taste for human flesh.

Cronenberg, D. (Director). (1986). [The Fly](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation.

Synopsis: Remake of the 1958 film. Scientist Seth Brundle has discovered how to transport living matter. Thinking he has perfected the experiment, he tries it himself, unaware that a fly has entered the chamber with him. Now he must deal with the consequences of a fly/human mutation.

Darnell, E. & Johnson, T. (Directors). (1999). [Antz](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Dreamworks.

Synopsis: A lowly worker ant, Z, switches places with his soldier friend in order to be closer to his new love, the princess of the colony. Z must also squash the plans of a scheming general who wishes to annihilate the worker ants.

Note: Animated; Children

Davis, J. (Director, Producer, Writer). (2006). [The Ant Bully](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Warner Home Video.

Synopsis: Bullied Lucas takes out his frustration on an ant hill, but the ants fight back and shrink Lucas down to ant-size. Now Lucas must learn to live like an insect and appreciate the value of the microscopic world and its inhabitants.

Note: Animated; Children

Del Toro, G. (Director). (1997). [Mimic](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Dimension.

Synopsis: After creating "short-lived" and sterile genetically altered insects to control the disease ridden cockroaches beneath the city, entomologist Susan Tyler and her husband discover that their "Judas" breed has not only continued to thrive, but evolved.

Douglas, G. (Director). (1954). [Them](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Warner Brothers Pictures.

Synopsis: After being exposed to radiation during a bomb tests, ants are transformed into giant monsters intent on wreaking havoc on a town and its inhabitants.

Elkayem, E. (Director). (2002). [Eight Legged Freaks](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Warner Brothers Pictures.

Synopsis: A chemical spill in a small Arizona town turns spiders into giant mutants.

Elkayem, E. (Director). (2000) [Creepy Crawlers](#) [Motion picture]. United States: 20th Century Fox.

Synopsis: Dr. Cahill's island vacation doesn't go quiet as expected when the island is overrun by biting, parasitic cockroaches. With the help of the local sheriff, Cahill must find out what's causing the infestation and how to stop it.

Francis, F. (Director). (1967). [The Deadly Bees](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Paramount Pictures.

Synopsis: A British pop singer meets a mad scientist breeding deadly bees.

Friedkin, W. (Director). (2006). [*Bug*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Lionsgate.

Synopsis: Agnes has recently escaped her abusive husband and moves to a sleazy motel to hide out. Her friend introduces her to Peter, and a short romance ensues. When they are faced with a horrifying insect infestation, Agnes questions what is real and what is imaginary.

Gordon, B.I. (Director). (1957). [*Beginning of the End*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Republic Pictures.

Synopsis: A reporter and scientist investigate the devastation of a small Illinois town being overrun by giant grasshoppers. And now they are on their way to Chicago!

Gordon, B.I. (Director). (1977). [*Empire of the Ants*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: American International Pictures.

Synopsis: Phony realtor Marilyn tries to sell property on a Florida island, but she is unaware it is overrun with giant ants.

Gordon, B.I. (Director). (1976). [*Food of the Gods*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: American International Pictures.

Synopsis: When farmers feed toxic goo to their chickens to increase their size, inevitably the fowl aren't the only animals to become mutated. The farmers and scientist soon discover it's not a good idea to mess with nature.

Haas, P. (Director). (1995). [*Angels and Insects*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Samuel Goldwyn Company.

Synopsis: This Victorian costume drama follows explorer William Adamson as he studies, then writes about an ant colony he is observing while trying to make it through his own life challenges.

Haskon, B. (Director). (1954). [*The Naked Jungle*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Paramount Pictures.

Synopsis: "Mail order" newlyweds Christopher and Joanna must put aside their differences when Christopher's South American jungle plantation is threatened by a horde of ferocious ants that will destroy anything in their path.

Jones, G. (Director). (1995). [*Mosquito*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Acme Films, Ltd.

Synopsis: After a UFO crashes into swampland and introduces alien blood to the mosquito population, mutated monsters emerge with a great lust for human blood.

Juran, N. (Director). (1957). [*Deadly Mantis*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Universal Pictures.

Synopsis: A giant mantis recently thawed from a glacier is ready for some prey!

Lasseter, J. & Stanton, A. (Directors). (1998). [*A Bug's Life*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Buena Vista Pictures.

Synopsis: Flik, an ant whose home is being threatened by cruel grasshoppers, uses determination and friendship to help him save the day.

Note: Animated; Children

Lehmann, M. (Director). (1990). [*Meet the Applegates*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Triton Pictures.
Synopsis: A family of giant praying mantis-like insects disguise themselves as humans and moves from the jungle to suburbia.

Ludwig, E. (Director). (1957). [*The Black Scorpion*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Warner Brothers Pictures.

Synopsis: Giant scorpions emerge after a volcanic eruption.

Manus, P. (Director). (2008). [*The Hive*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: RHI Entertainment.

Synopsis: Entomologists investigate a nest of 200 million ferocious army ants in the Brazilian forest that eat everything in their path, and appear to have nefarious plans.

Marshall, F. (Director). (1990). [*Arachnophobia*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Buena Vista Pictures.

Synopsis: After a rare Venezuelan spider is accidentally shipped to a small U.S. town, a new doctor suspects his patients are dying from spider bites. But his arachnophobia makes his case a hard sell.

McDonagh, K. & Fallows, M. (Directors). (2004). [*Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Kids*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: MGM.

Synopsis: Miss Spider and her husband Holley have just been blessed with 5 spiderlings, and they inevitably end up going on some adventures after one child wants to reunite a chicken egg with its mother.

Note: Animated; Children

Neumann, K. (Director). (1958). [*The Fly*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: 20th Century Fox.

Synopsis: A scientist experimenting with teleportation accidentally transports a fly in the chamber with him and emerges as a mutant fly/man hybrid.

Payson, J. (Director). (1996). [*Joe's Apartment*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Warner Brothers Pictures.

Synopsis: Iowan Joe needs a cheap apartment when he moves to New York, but gets more than he bargained for when he finds out he shares his new home with thousands of friendly talking cockroaches.

Pool, L. (Director). (2004). [*The Blue Butterfly*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Porchlight Entertainment.

Synopsis: Entomologist Alan Osborn agrees to fulfill a dying boy's last wish...to capture a Blue Morpho butterfly. They travel to South America in search of the insect, learning about each other and the ways of nature during their unusual but unforgettable journey.

Randel, T. (Director). (1993) [*Infested*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Republican Pictures Home Video.

Synopsis: Killer insects eat their hosts from the inside out.

Rankin, K. (Director). (2009). [*Infestation*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Heavy Duty Entertainment.

Synopsis: Cooper wakes up to find himself entangled in a cocoon made by man-eating insects. Saving himself and others around him, he gathers a small force to fight the invasion.

Sholder, J. (Director). (2001). [Arachnid](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Lions Gate Films.

Synopsis: Scientists investigate the cause of mysterious bites a local man received on a South Pacific island near Guam. When their plane crashes, they discover large, mutated spiders that kill humans with their bite are residents of the island.

Smith, S.J. & Hickner, S. (Directors). (2007). [Bee Movie](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Dreamworks.

Synopsis: Barry B. Benson is a new college graduate, but finds making honey is his only career option. Flying into New York to find pollen, he is befriended by florist Vanessa. Through her he discovers that mankind uses bees to produce honey for itself, and decides to sue.

Note: Animated; Children

Stasson, B. (Director). (2008). [Fly Me to the Moon](#) [Motion picture]. United States: K2 Communications.

Synopsis: In the 1960's, three young flies want reach the moon, and hitch a ride aboard Apollo 11 to get there.

Note: Animated; Children

Verhoeven, P. (Director). (1997). [Starship Troopers](#) [Motion picture]. United States: TriStar Pictures.

Synopsis: In the future, young people are urged to help save mankind by joining the military and fighting in a war with alien insects.

Winning, D. (Director). (2007). [Black Swarm](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Hallmark Entertainment.

Synopsis: A deputy, her daughter, and several scientists fight to destroy a swarm of genetically engineered wasps that were developed as a military weapon.

Wynorski, J. (Director). (1995). [Wasp Woman](#) [Motion picture]. United States: New Horizons Home Video.

Synopsis: Remake of the 1960 film about a woman who turns into a giant wasp after using a scientist's secret formula.

TV Episodes, Series, and Movies

The following lists television series, TV show episodes, or made-for-TV movies that are about or feature insects or entomologists. They include genres such as cartoons, sitcoms, and science fiction. All are for entertainment, rather than educational.

TV Episodes:

Carter, C. (Writer) & Napolitano, J. (Director). (1994). [Darkness Falls](#). [Television series episode]. In C. Carter (Producer), *The X-files*. Los Angeles: Fox Broadcasting Company.

Synopsis: FBI agents Dana Scully and Fox Mulder visit a forest where loggers have been disappearing. They find a body wrapped in what looks like an insect cocoon and while staying in a cabin in the area, discover a swarm of green bugs that come out every night to attack any living thing.

Chapelle, J. (Director). (2011). [Immortality](#) [Television series episode]. In J.J. Abrams, *Fringe*. Los Angeles: Fox Broadcasting Company.

Synopsis: In an alternate universe, the Fringe team investigates and tries to stop an entomologist whose research with a new insect now requires him to feed it human flesh.

Craig, C. G. (Producer). (2008). [Show Me the Mummy](#) [Television series episode]. In A. Cosby & J Paglia (Creators), *Eureka*. New York: SyFy Channel.

Synopsis: A mummy full of insects infests the small town of Eureka, OR.

Kane, A. (Director). (2008). [Bzzzzzz!](#) [Television series episode]. In B. Fuller (Creator), *Pushing Daisies*. New York: American Broadcasting Company.

Synopsis: After a spokesperson of a honey-using cosmetics company is stung to death, Chuck disguises herself as the new “Bee Girl” to get to the bottom of things.

Morgan, G., Wong, J. (Writers), & Nutter, D. (Director). (1993). [Ice](#) [Television series episode]. In C. Carter (Producer), *The X-files*. Los Angeles: Fox Broadcasting Company.

Synopsis: FBI agents Dana Scully and Fox Mulder visit the arctic with three other scientists and encounter an alien worm that uses humans and animals as its host.

Morgan, D. (Writer) and Manners, K. (Director). (1996). [War of the Coprophages](#). [Television series episode]. In C. Carter (Producer), *The X-files*. Los Angeles: Fox Broadcasting Company.

Synopsis: FBI agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully investigate deaths in a small town, which are seemingly caused by killer cockroaches.

Nave, R. (Writer), Coakley, B. (Writer), & Manners, K. (Director). (2005). [Bugs](#) [Television series episode]. In E. Kripke (Producer), *Supernatural*. Burbank: CW.

Synopsis: Brothers Sam and Dean Winchester, supernatural hunters, travel to Oklahoma to investigate insect related deaths.

Reynolds, J. (Writer), & Cendrowski, M. (Director). (2009). [The Jiminy Conjecture](#) [Television series episode]. In C. Lorre & B. Prady (Producers), *The Big Bang Theory*. Los Angeles: CBS Broadcasting, Inc.
Synopsis: Nerds Sheldon Cooper and Howard Wolowitz hear a cricket chirping in their apartment and argue over what species it is (a snowy tree cricket or a field cricket). After making a bet over a prized comic book, they capture the cricket and bring it to an eccentric Cal Tech entomologist for identification.

Vlaming, J. (Writer), & Rohl, M. (Director). (2007). [All Mine](#) [Television series episode]. In M. Fazekas & T. Butters (Creators), *Reaper*. Burbank: CW.
Synopsis: Cockroaches and bees abound in this episode where Sam and his friends must send a soul back to hell using a toaster.

Woeste, P.F. (2003). Sight Unseen [Television series episode]. In B. Wright & J. Glassner (Creators), *Stargate SG-1*. New York: SyFy Channel.
Synopsis: The SG-1 team comes back to Earth and begin to see giant bugs that phase in and out of sight.

TV Series

Krofft, M. & Krofft, S. (Producers). (1970). [Bugaloos](#) [Television series]. Los Angeles: Rhino Theatrical.
Synopsis: This children's series followed the adventures of four teenage insect musicians in Tranquility Forest and their nemesis, Benita Bizarre.

Polsky, D. (Executive Producer). (2005). [Disney's The Buzz on Maggie](#) [Television series]. Glendale: Walt Disney Television Animation.
Synopsis: This cartoon follows the adventures of a young fly and her family.

Zuiker, A. E. & Bruckheimer J. (Executive Producers). (2000). [CSI: Crime Scene Investigation](#) [Television series]. Los Angeles: CBS Broadcasting, Inc.
Synopsis: Entomologist Gil Grissom and his Crime Scene Investigation team solve Las Vegas murders. Using forensic techniques such as the timing of insect colonization to predict time of death, the investigators gather clues that lead to killers.

Made-For-TV Movies

Hagmann, S. (Director). (1977). [Tarantulas: The Deadly Cargo](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Direct Source Label.
Synopsis: A plane flying from South America crashes and releases hitchhiking venomous tarantulas onto an unsuspecting California town. After several deaths occur from the spiders, law enforcement and citizens must work to fight the infestation, including an invasion of the town's important orange-production factory.

Gilmour, I. (Director). (2005). [*Locusts: The 8th Plague*](#) (Sci Fi Essentials) [Motion picture]. United States: Image Entertainment.

Synopsis: Don't walk, run! A secret government lab has produced genetically altered locust that are ready to ravage the Earth.

Jackson, D. (Director). (2005). [*Locusts*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: VZS Productions.

Synopsis: A USDA scientist investigates a swarm of genetically engineered grasshoppers that are destroying everything in their path.

Perez, J. (Director). (2005). [*Monster Island*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: First Look Pictures.

Synopsis: Six friends find themselves trapped on an island with nightmarish creatures and only an MTV crew is there to protect them. Plus, they must find Carmen Electra!

Sheerer, R. (Director). (1977). [*Ants*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Direct Source Label.

Synopsis: The world is in danger when insects lash out against us!

Winsor, T. (Director). (2007). [*In the Spider's Web*](#) [Motion picture]. United States: Rhi Entertainment.

Synopsis: A group of American hikers are visiting Bolivia when one of their friends is bitten by a venomous spider. Seeking out an American doctor who is living with one of the tribes, the girl is treated, but the doctor is hiding something and the group's encounters with spiders are far from over.

Books

This bibliography includes books subdivided into novels (adult and young adult), children's books, and children's/young adult series. Novels listed may feature insects or entomologists (professionals or amateurs!), as a main part of the plot.

Because of the extensive number of children's books about insects, this bibliography is limited to works that involve an insect as a main character, learning life lessons or something about their world (i.e. Katy Katydid learns about friendship). It does not include fictionalized accounts of real-world skills, such as using insects to learn how to count or alphabetize, or showing how a child learns about the life cycle of insects. One thing of note here is that children's fictionalized works aren't always accurate scientifically, but focus more on the moral or adventure of the character. For example, there are many books where worker bee or biting mosquito characters are male, when realistically they would be female.

The children's books included here are in general for school aged children, aged 5 and up. In some cases age ranges may also include younger children, but as long as the older age group is included, the book is on the list (i.e. a book for ages 4-8 would be included, but one for ages 1-4 would not). Recommended age ranges are listed in the citation when this information was available.

This bibliography includes books published in the United States (traditional or self-published) from 1950-2012. Where possible, publication city is included in the citation, but in some cases this isn't available for self-published books or if the book is only available in electronic format.

For purposes of this bibliography, novels must be approximately 100 pages or more in length to accommodate both adult novels, which tend to be longer, and young adult novels. Individual short stories and novellas are not included but a few anthologies may be. Adult novels that may be in a series are also included where applicable.

For series, one title within the series is listed bibliographically and other titles within that series are noted at the end of the citation. In some cases only one book in a series has an entomological focus.

Each title includes an online link to an internet source where you can purchase the work. This may be from Barnes and Noble, Amazon, or other online bookstores. Please note that some linked versions may be reprints as the originals may be out of print, and in some cases, they are electronic only.

Novels:

Adult novels (Ages 15 and up)

Arment, C. (ed.) (2008). [*Invertebrata Enigmatica: Giant Spiders, Dangerous Insects, and Other Strange Invertebrates in Classic Science Fiction and Fantasy*](#). Landisville, PA: Coachwhip Publications.

Synopsis: A collection of science fiction/fantasy short stories about odd and unusual insects and their interaction with man.

Baum, S. (2009). [*The Demon Queen and the Locksmith*](#). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Synopsis: Kevin begins high school on a strange note; he gets superpowers and follows a butterfly into a strange world.

Bloom, B. (2007). [*A Marriage of Insects: A Novel of World Tree*](#). Farmingdale, NY: Padwolf Publishing Inc.

Synopsis: Rajel and her spouses experience insect marital trials and errors.

Carter, D.V. (2007). [*The Hand of the Devil*](#). New York, NY: Random House Children's Books.

Synopsis: A journalist travels to Aries Island after receiving a letter about a rare mosquito, the Ganges Red. What he finds is a nightmarish insect and the collector who is studying it.

Cordiner, R.G. (2010). [*Bug Island*](#). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Synopsis: Survivors from a shipwrecked South American cruise must learn to live on an island with giant insects.

Crichton, M. and Preston, R. (2011). [*Micro: A Novel*](#). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Synopsis: A group of graduate science students, including an entomologist and arachnologist, are shrunk to a half inch in size and enter the unique and dangerous world of microorganisms and insects.

Cuce, T.A. & Brand-Stories, R. (2011). [*PeeDee3, Intergalactic, Insectiod, Assassin in: Another Time Perhaps*](#). Tricorner Publishing.

Synopsis: PeeDee3 the bug must capture a time jumper. The challenge---bringing back at least part of the body instead of just disintegrating it!

Note: Other titles in this series: [*Gut Feeling*](#), [*Fafafalala and Dosido My Eggplant*](#), [*The Pachydwerp in the Room*](#), [*In Sheep's Clothing*](#), and [*Chase Seen Seven*](#).

Downs, T. (2003). [*Shoofly Pie*](#). Bug Man Series. New York, NY: Howard Books.

Synopsis: When forensic entomologist Nick Polchak helps an insect phobic client solve a case about her friend's death, he steps into a mystery about the death of his client's husband.

Note: Other books in this series: [*Nick of Time*](#), and [*First the Dead*](#)

Ellis, G.W. (2011). [*Hatchings*](#). Los Gatos, CA: Smashwords.

Synopsis: Jason Carter experiences tragedy when loved ones are killed by venomous centipedes and his town is destroyed by giant ants. Now he must fight against those who have created this ecological disaster.

Estrin, M. (2005). [*Insect Dreams: The Half Life of Gregor Samsa*](#). Lakewood, CO: Unbridled Books.

Synopsis: Inspired by Franz Kafka's early 20th century novella, *Metamorphosis*, *Insect Dreams* explores what happens when the Samsa family's chambermaid sells Gregor Samsa, a salesman who's been transformed into a cockroach, to a carnival.

Farley, R. (2008). [*Thripz*](#). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Synopsis: Reporter Nathan Brewster discovers an island where biogenetically altered thrips are resistant to pesticide and have increased reproductive capabilities. Together with others on the island, he must try to stop the thrips that are killing people and wreaking havoc in the community.

Fear, B. (2008). [*A Macabre Myth of Moth-man*](#). Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

Synopsis: Moth, a half-moth mutant, has been used as a science experiment, and now wants revenge. Nina, a barmaid pulled into helping out with a documentary about "Moth-man" soon learns that he's not just a myth.

Frontiera, D. K. (2000). [*Chronicles of Henry Roach Dairier*](#). Bloomington, IN: iUniverse, Inc.

Synopsis: Large ants and roaches have taken over the world and created complex civilizations. But like any species, they are dependent on certain resources, in this case, plastic left over from the ruins of the extinct Duo-Pods. Henry must help convince his fellow citizens that they must work and live together if they hope to avoid extinction like the Duo-Pods.

Note: This is a series. Other titles include: [*To Build a Tunnel*](#), [*New South Dairy Colony 50*](#), and [*The Re-creation of Roacheria*](#),

Girard, P.T. (2001). [*The Seventh Sister*](#). Five Star.

Synopsis: Lady Margaret's family wants to see her married, but she's more interested in insects than a husband.

Gould, J. (2011). [*Flidderbugs*](#). Los Gatos, CA: Smashwords.

Synopsis: Kriffle and Fargeeta live in the Krephiloff Tree. When they notice some funny business going on in the overgrown area of the tree, they set out to solve the problem before disaster strikes.

Hall, R. (2010). [*Inside Jupiter*](#). Plano, TX: Rival Media Publishing.

Synopsis: When their ship crashes on Jupiter, siblings Walt and Mindy must battle sword fighting butterflies, giant grasshoppers, praying mantids, and other predators that want to eat them.

Heinlein, R. A. (1960). [*Starship Troopers*](#). New York, NY: Penguin Group, Inc.

Synopsis: Juan Rico and other soldiers who have gone through a grueling boot camp must fight against a dangerous enemy in “The Bug War.”

Herbert, F. (2007). [*Hellstrom's Hive*](#) (Reprint). New York, NY: Tor Books.

Synopsis: Agents from a futuristic Big Brother government investigate a secret laboratory run by Dr. Hellstrom, who has created a nightmarish project involving insects.

Herbert, F. (2002). [*The Green Brain*](#). New York, NY: Tor Books.

Synopsis: The International Ecological Organization tries to eradicate dangerous insect life in the Earth's jungles to make them more habitable for humans. Unfortunately, Mother Nature retaliates with a vengeance in the form of large, mutated insect creatures.

Herzog, A. (2002). [*The Swarm*](#). Bloomington, IN: iUniverse.

Synopsis: Murderous Brazilian bees begin to attack New York and soon reach across the U.S. Now scientists are working against the clock to stop the infestation.

Keene, B. (2006). [*The Conqueror Worms*](#). New York, NY: Leisure Books.

Synopsis: It's started raining and hasn't stopped. The world is flooded and those who have survived have sought higher ground. Now the worms have come, and there's a new enemy to contend with.

Knighton, L. (2010). [*Chutterbug*](#). Boise, AL: Laurence Knighton.

Synopsis: In the world of Mynoot, everyone loves sourgrass. But what will happen if the sourgrass runs out?

Knox, T. (2008). [*Kockroach: A Novel*](#). New York, NY: Harper Perennial.

Synopsis: A cockroach in the 1950's awakens as a human. A take off of the classic early 20th century novella, *Metamorphosis*, by Franz Kafka.

Koff, D.R. (2012). [*Threat*](#). The Barren Spheres Trilogy. David R. Koff.

Synopsis: Winkon's world is full of diminishing resources and war. Will anything be able to reduce the threat?

Kull, S. (2008). [*Norahs: The Alien Caretakers*](#). SynergEbooks.

Synopsis: Alien insects planning to take over the world are hiding inside a woman's backyard weeds.

Laake, D. (2010). [*Futura*](#). Absolute Xpress.

Synopsis: Humans and Insects have lived peaceably for years, but something has changed and now a universal war is starting. Gracie, a woman who can interpret Insect language, and a small team of soldiers, work to discover who is behind the war and stop them.

Leithauser, B. (2002). [*Darlington's Fall*](#). New York, NY: Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group.

Synopsis: This novel follows Victorian naturalist Russell Darlington as he pursues a new butterfly species, goes to college, and experiences love, tragedy, and death.

Lombardo, D. (2007). [Vespa](#). Active Bladder.

Synopsis: After several gruesome killings in a small town, Tom Goodman, an expert in biological control, must pursue the unusual creature that is causing them.

Malfi, R. (2012). [After the Fade](#). Delirium Novella series. Delirium Books.

Synopsis: Customers are horrified when a girl enters an Annapolis bar and dies. Cause: a strange creature attached to her head. But this is only the beginning...more creatures wait outside for new hosts.

Malone, M. (2012). [Redemption Trail](#). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Synopsis: One hundred years after World War V, Krey and Cassie are exiled from Earth for minor crimes. Traveling to outlying planets in a beat up spaceship, they must fight against robotic insects and aliens who have destroyed those planets and are now bent on invading Earth.

Mottershead, C. (2002). [Coppice \(Bee Wars\)](#). Mystole Publications.

Synopsis: Three drone honeybees become engaged in a conflict with an invading species of colored bees.

Naiman, G. (2009). [The Response \(the Kerry Chronicles\)](#) Martinsville, IN: Fideli Publishing, Inc.

Synopsis: A NASA experiment gone wrong brings the wrath of ten thousand trillion angry ants against humanity.

Naiman, G. (2011). [From the Void \(the Kerry Chronicles\)](#). Martinsville, IN: Fideli Publishing, Inc.

Synopsis: In this sequel to *The Response*, it is revealed that social insects such as ants, bees, and wasps were brought to Earth by an advanced civilization of large alien insects to rule humanity. Now with their scheme threatened, the aliens are ready to come join the fight themselves.

Pelcher, A. (2010). [Vampires of Venus](#). Wilsonville, OR: eStar books.

Synopsis: An entomologist from Earth fights vampires on Venus.

Pinkerton, E. (2012). [Utopia, Oregon](#). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Synopsis: When Angeline and her entomologist husband attend the Annual Giant Insect Contest in Utopia, OR, Angeline begins to have nightmarish flashbacks about her past. Elsewhere, an escaped prisoner being pursued by a U.S. Marshall will go to any lengths to remain free.

Poetzel, J. (2012). [Honolulu Beetles](#). Think Tank 7.

Synopsis: Keiko turns insects into a work of art.

Saul, J. (1995). [*The Homing*](#). New York, NY: Fawcett.

Synopsis: Karen Spellman and her daughters move from the city to the country when Karen is going to remarry. One of the daughters, Julie, is attacked by a new, potent bee species created by a serial killer. Julie survives only to be infested by internal insect parasites that she then passes to other human hosts.

Schmidt, S. (2002). [*Argonaut*](#). New York, NY: Tor Books.

Synopsis: After being stung by a strange insect, two people experience strange neurological effects. They consult an entomologist and together discover a potential alien plot. Can they convince the government that the world is in danger?

Smith, C.W. (2010). [*Bug Killer*](#). Amazon Digital Services.

Synopsis: Greg needs some bug killer but doesn't want to spend the money for a 50 lb bag. That's when he spots a truck in a parking lot that may have just what he's looking for.

Spiewak, C. (2007). [*Vinny, the Bug Man*](#). Chicago, IL: Tony C. Caputo.

Synopsis: Vinny is a new pest management professional whose learning the business from his Uncle Guy. He ventures off on his first assignment and through strange events finds himself shrunk to the size of the insects he's trying to kill. Can he find his uncle and grow back to normal size?

Stoffolano Jr., J. G. (2011). [*Tonino: The Adventures of the Boy/Cricket from Boston's North End*](#). Bloomington, IN: iUniverse, Inc.

Synopsis: Tonino is a cricket boy who is interested in finding out more about his family roots. What he finds is the Blue Fairy, who tells him he has the responsibility of maintaining the conscience of whole world!

Strand, J. (2003). [*Mandibles*](#). Cincinnati, OH: Mundania Press LLC.

Synopsis: Giant fire ants are attacking and killing the populace. And the entomologist who can possibly save the situation is being held hostage by lunatics who are enjoying the chaos!

Swain, B. (2007). [*World Hunger*](#). Bloomington, IN: iUniverse, Inc.

Synopsis: Vanguard Corporation has created genetically altered seeds that could help the agricultural industry produce more and better crops. However, when reports begin coming in of strange insect behavior, it is discovered that the properties of the seeds have transferred to the insects, which are now resistant to pesticides, larger in size, and more aggressive. Can they be controlled?

Tarvin, B. (2012). [*Legend of the Beemen*](#). Musa Publishing

Synopsis: Balsa the yellowjacket must now stay with her cousin Juniper after the Beeman destroys her colony. Will Balsa be able to protect Juniper and her young from being destroyed, too?

Taylor, L. J. (2012). [*The Termite Queen Volume 1: The Speaking of the Dead*](#). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Synopsis: It is the 30th Century and scientists have discovered a planet with seemingly intelligent termites. After a collected termite dies on Earth, linguist Kaitrin and entomologist Griffen are sent on an expedition to the planet to learn more. Meanwhile, the termite civilization is experiencing problems of its own.

Taylor, L. J. (2012). [*The Termite Queen Volume Two The Wound That Has No Healing*](#). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Synopsis: Kaitrin and Griffen arrive on the termite planet, while the termites continue to face their own battles. Kaitrin learns the termite language and is able to communicate with the termite civilization. Griffen begins to exhibit troubling behavioral changes as the plot leads to an explosive end.

Tillock, A.J. (2012). [*The Forbidden Bean*](#). Naples, FL: Barbara Meyers LLC.

Synopsis: Tee Rutledge discovers magical coffee beans that temporarily transform her into various insects each time she eats one. Using her small size to do some snooping, she discovers information that allows her to become a “superhero” of sorts.

Werber, B. (1999). [*Empire of the Ants*](#). New York, NY: Bantam.

Synopsis: The Wells family inherits a family home in Paris and is told to never enter the cellar. Inevitably this warning goes unheeded and the Wells’ find a world inhabited by an intelligent ant civilization trying to survive any way they can.

Winters, B. H. (2011). [*Bedbugs*](#). Philadelphia, PA: Quirk Books.

Synopsis: Susan and Alex move into what they believe is their dream home...until Susan starts getting bitten by what she thinks is bedbugs. Is it only bedbugs or something worse?

Zdero, R. (2008). [*Entopia: Revolution of the Ants*](#). Waterford, VA: OakTara Publishing Group, LLC.

Synopsis: Gazer the worker ant lives in Entgora, a colony with strict rules. After observing a ritual she’s not supposed to see, then having a revealing dream, Gazer is caught up in a mystery and adventure that will change her life and the lives of others forever.

Young Adult Novels

Age ranges for young adult novels range from about 7-18. If a novel gave a particular age range, it is included here. Books in this category are much longer and have more text than the Children’s books, which are often very visually oriented with less text.

Amato, M. (2004). [*The Word Eater*](#). New York, NY: Holiday House, Inc.

Ages 8-12

Synopsis: Lerner discovers that her pet worm, Fip, likes to eat paper, and whatever words or phrases he eats make those items vanish from the world! What will Lerner do with this newfound knowledge?

Broach, E. & Murphy, K. (ill.) (2008). [*Masterpiece*](#). New York, NY: Henry Holt and Co.

Ages 9-12

Synopsis: Marvin the beetle and James the boy live in the same apartment in New York. When James gets a pen set for his birthday and Marvin uses it to draw an artistic masterpiece, boy and beetle become friends and end up on a mysterious adventure at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Copeland, M. (2006). [*The Bundle at Blackthorpe Heath*](#). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages: 10-14

Synopsis: Art receives a new spyglass from his grandfather, the ringleader for an insect circus. He's told not to use the spyglass for spying, but inevitably he, his friend Daisy, and their pet ladybug uncover a conspiracy that could shake up the circus!

Dahl, R. (2007). [*James and the Giant Peach*](#) (Reprint) Black, Q. (Illus). New York, NY: Puffin.

Ages: 9-12

Synopsis: James Trotter and his insect friends have a fun adventure inside a large, magical peach!

Donovan, G. (2011). [*What's Bugging Bailey Blecker*](#). New York, NY: Dutton Juvenile.

Ages: 8-11

Synopsis: Bailey likes her long hair, but she doesn't like the head lice that are infesting it!

Hawdon, R. (1989). [*A Rustle in Grass*](#). New York, NY: Tor Books.

Ages: 12-17

Synopsis: When a colony of ants awake after a long winter, they discover from a neighboring scout that enemy Red Ants are on the way to destroy them. Can they find out more about their foe and save their colony before it's too late?

Holman, F. (2006). [*The Cricket Winter*](#). Thomas, R. (Illus.) .Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Books for Young Readers.

Ages: 8-12

Synopsis: Simms becomes friends with a cricket beneath the floorboards in his room. Learning to communicate through Morse code, the two friends update each other on all the triumphs and troubles of their human and insect lives.

James, M. (1992). [*Shoebag*](#). New York, NY: Scholastic Paperbacks.

Ages: 8-12

Synopsis: A cockroach is transformed into a boy and adopted by a human family.

Keneally, T., and Ryan, S. (ill). (1995). [*Ned Kelly and the City of the Bees*](#). Ryan, S. (Illus.) Boston, MA: David R. Godine.

Ages: 7-12

Synopsis: Ned and Nancy shrink to insect size and ride a bee into adventure. They join a beehive where they meet many strange new friends.

Kennedy, X.J. (1997). [*The Eagle as Wide as the World*](#). New York, NY: Margaret K. McElderry Books.
Ages 8-12

Synopsis: Giant killer bees are kidnapping people, including the Tibb twins. What can be done?

Kline, S. (2009). [*Horrible Harry Bugs the Three Bears*](#) (Reprint). New York, NY: Puffin.
Ages: 7-9

Synopsis: Harry loves bugs, and his newest favorite is earwigs. When his class is assigned to do a play about a fairy tale, Harry decides to incorporate his love of earwigs into the story.

Kotzwinkle, W. (1986). [*Trouble in Bugland: A Collection of Inspector Mantis Mysteries*](#). Servello, J. (Illus.). Boston, MA: David R. Godine Pub.

Ages: 7-12

Synopsis: Inspector Mantis and his trusty sidekick, Dr. Hopper, meet clients and solve five engaging mysteries in Bugland.

Laven, K. (2007). [*Quit Bugging Me*](#). Denver, CO: HMRS Publishing.
Ages: 9 and up

Synopsis: Emily and her brother Bud must discover the secrets of an unsettling book about insects that is more than what it seems.

Liddell, J. (2006). [*Tales of Glarney*](#). Bloomington, IN: Trafford Publishing.
Ages: 7-9

Synopsis: Simon's love of collecting insects leads him to adventure in a fantastical world called Glarney.

Low, D. (2009). [*Petronella Saves Nearly Everyone: The Entomological Tales of Augustus T. Percival*](#). Corace, J. (Illus.). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.
Ages: Age 10 and up

Synopsis: Petronella is turning 16 in Edwardian London, and it's time for a party. This should be an exciting time, but her guardian, Uncle Augustus, has taken to eating insects and to make things worse, guests are disappearing and insects seem to hold the key. Can Petronella solve the mystery and preserve her dignity?

Maguire, G. (2005). [*Seven Spiders Spinning*](#). Zimmer, D. (Illus.). Logan, IA: Perfection Learning.
Ages: 8-12

Synopsis: Prehistoric spiders thawed from the ice show up at a Vermont elementary school.

Martin, L. (1997). [*Die, Bug, Die*](#). X-files novel (juvenile). New York, NY: Harper Trophy.

Synopsis: Miller's Grove is a small town overrun by homicidal roaches. Agents Mulder and Scully are on the case!

McKinley, R. (2010). [*Chalice*](#). New York, NY: Puffin.

Synopsis: Mirasol lives in the Willowlands as a beekeeper. But her destiny changes when she is asked to become the Chalice, a responsibility that requires her to bring the Willowland people together with a Master.

Moraja, M. P. (2010). [*Jake and the Fly*](#). Matthews, NC: Melissa Productions, Inc.

Synopsis: Jake rescues some worms and keeps them in his bedroom, only to discover they have turned into flies! Now he must try to rid his house of the flies before too much trouble ensues.

Park, L. S. (2007). [*Project Mulberry*](#). New York, NY: Yearling.

Ages: 9-12

Synopsis: Julia and her neighbor Patrick decide to raise silkworms for their state fair project. It's more complex than they imagined, but can they be successful and possibly win the blue ribbon?

Paulus, T. (1973). [*Hope for the Flowers*](#). Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press.

Synopsis: A caterpillar's journey into metamorphosis explores discovering your true self and how life can bring some unexpected, but wonderful turns.

Place, M. (2011). [*Gossamer Lives*](#). Grandby, CT: Purple Ducks Digital Media, Inc.

Ages: 10 and up

Synopsis: Yarunt is a spider who is born without the usual spider instincts. Now she must face many dangers and a catastrophe outside her own web.

Reeve, K. (1998). [*Lolo and Red-Legs*](#). St. Louis, MO: Turtleback Books.

Ages: 7-10

Synopsis: Friends Lolo, Frankie, and Mario capture a Mexican red-leg tarantula and Lolo decides to name it and keep it as a pet. Lolo and his friends have a great summer until someone steals Red-legs and the boys, with the help of their friend Lisa, search for the culprit in hopes of getting Red-legs back.

Rockwell, T. (1988). [*How to Eat Fried Worms*](#). New York, NY: Random House Publishing Group.

Synopsis: Billy makes a bet with another boy that he will eat fifteen worms in fifteen days. Will he be able to do it, despite several obstacles?

Rowling, J.K. (2000). [*Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*](#). New York, NY: Scholastic Inc.

Ages: 8 and up

Synopsis: In this fourth book of the Harry Potter series, Harry and his friends.....Rita Skeeter turning into a beetle.

Thompson, M.G. (2012). [*Wuftoom*](#). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages: 12 and up

Synopsis: Evan has been visited by a worm creature named Wuftoom, who tells Evan he is metamorphosizing and will soon become a worm, too. Desperate, Evan makes a deal with the sworn enemy of Wuftoom, the Vitflies, but finds he may regret that decision.

Ury, A.B. (1998). [*Crawlers! Worm meal and Other Tasty Tales*](#). New York, NY: Torkids.

Ages: 9-12

Synopsis: Freddie, Jason, and other characters must deal with carnivorous worms, stinkbugs, and other creepy crawlies in this short anthology of scary insect tales.

White, E.B. (1952). [*Charlotte's Web*](#). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages: 8-12

Synopsis: Charlotte the barn spider tries to help Wilbur the farm pig from being killed by weaving amazing words about him in her web that awe and inspire everyone who sees them.

Zollman, P. (2001). [*Don't Bug Me!*](#) New York, NY: Holiday House, Inc.

Ages: 9-11

Synopsis: Megan has a hard time when she needs to collect insects for her sixth-grade project.

Children's Fictional Books

Children's fiction books often have an educational scope as well as being entertaining. Because I am not including books that have to do with learning a skill (such as counting, alphabet, etc.), "Educational" here can be defined as an insect character learning or teaching about a life process (metamorphosis) or a life lesson (i.e. friendship or self-esteem). In my research I have found that most all of these books fit within this definition. However, there are also a few which involve a character's adventure or fun experience (i.e. solving a mystery, saving the day, going on vacation). In cases where the book has this latter element instead of or in addition to a moral lesson, I have marked it as being "Entertaining." Note also that age ranges are listed where they were available from the sources consulted.

Adams, M. & Gonzalez, J. (2004). [*Slinkie the Courageous Snail*](#). Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

Ages: 9-12

Synopsis: A young snail gets lost in the woods after entering a race to be the fastest snail.

Agra Deedy, C. (2008). [*Martina the Beautiful Cockroach*](#). Austin, M. (Illus.). Atlanta, GA: Peachtree Publishers

Ages 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Martina the cockroach learns about love, marriage, and...coffee.

Alemagna, B. (2009). [*Bugs in a Blanket*](#) . New York, NY: Phaidon Press.

Ages: 1-9

Synopsis: Little fat bug has never met the other bugs who share her blanket. They all live in separate holes, but little fat bug decides to invite them all to her birthday party. Here the insects discover that no one looks the same, and are shocked and offended by it. Eventually they learn about tolerance and acceptance of those who are different, and gain an appreciation for diversity.

Alice, K. (2010). [*Hangin' with Timmy and Spinner*](#). Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.
Synopsis: Spinner the spider teaches Timmy yo-yo tricks, increasing his confidence.

Amarel, C. (2010). [*Gary Grasshopper Hops Again!*](#) Debnath, S. (Illus.). Milwaukee, WI: Mirror Publishing.
Ages: 3-8
Synopsis: Gary hops a lot because he's happy, but when his best friend moves away, can he get his legs moving again?

Applefield, A. (2002). [*The Beetle and the Berry*](#). Sausalito, CA: E & E Publishing.
Ages: 4-8; Entertaining
Synopsis: A little beetle ponders how to get a berry back home.

Arena, F. (2008). [*Sally and Dave. A Slug Story*](#). La Jolla, CA: Kane/Miller Book Pub.
Ages: 4-8; Entertaining
Synopsis: Sally is a slim slug and her neighbor Dave is fat. She likes to remind him of how common he is, until Sally's life is in danger and Dave is the one to save her.

Arkhurst, J.C. & Pinkney, J. (1992). [*The Adventures of Spider*](#). New York, NY: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.
Ages: 8 and up; Entertaining
Synopsis: How did spider get a thin waist or bald head? This story will tell you!

Arnold, C. (2007). [*Wiggle and Waggle*](#). Peterson, M. (Illus.). Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge Publishing.
Ages: 5-8; Entertaining
Synopsis: Wiggle and Waggle are two worms who enjoy having fun!

Asch, F. (1995). [*Insects from Outer Space*](#). Vagin, F. (Illus.). New York, NY: Scholastic, Inc.
Ages: 4-8; Entertaining
Synopsis: Earth bugs are surprised when alien insects land during the Bug Ball. Will they welcome the new visitors?

Ashley, P. & Wood, J. (ill). (2010). [*Have you Ever Been Hugged by a Spider?*](#) Wood, J. (Illus.). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.
Synopsis: Let the spider and her friends show you some of their secrets!

Atamer, B. (2011). [*Jeremy Finds the Rainbow*](#). Debroeck, S. (Illus.). Frederick, MD: PublishAmerica, Inc.
Synopsis: Jeremy the ant discovers the story of Noah's Ark.

Babic, J. (2011). [*Eddie's Travels*](#). Schillgalies, A. (Illus.). Frederick, MD: PublishAmerica, Inc.
Synopsis: Eddie, a compost worm, gets lost. As he slowly finds his way back home again, he meets new friends and learns more about composting.

Baca Haque, M. & du Houx, E. (2003). [*Madalynn the Monarch Butterfly and her Quest to Micoacan*](#). Lancaster-Jones, F. (Illus.). Solon, ME: Polar Bear & Company.

Ages: 6 and up; Entertaining

Synopsis: Madalynn meets friendly birds on her migration to Mexico.

Bach-Davis, S. (2011). [*The Story of Ms. Polka Dots*](#). Parker, CO: Brave Art Press.

Synopsis: Ms. Polka Dots, a ladybug, finds herself in a lot of trouble, and she'll need friends to help her get out of it.

Berger, H. W. (2004). [*Freddie the Fly*](#). Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

Ages: 9-12

Synopsis: Little Freddie the fly has a bad habit. He's been told to stop, but doesn't listen, and now he'll have to learn his lesson before he gets into too much trouble!

Blackwell, N. (2011). [*Andy the Ant in Precious Cargo*](#). Ettinger, C. (Illus.). North Fort Myers, FL: Faithful Life Publishers.

Synopsis: Andy the Ant finds some eggs and chooses to protect them until they hatch.

Blankenship, P. (2009). [*We Both Read Lulu's Wild Party*](#). Reinhart, L. (Illus.). Novato, CA: Treasure Bay, Inc.

Ages: 3-7; Entertaining

Synopsis: Ladybug Lulu and her mother throw Lulu a birthday party and her insect friends find all sorts of ways to have fun!

Bonotaux, G. (2007). [*Dirty Rotten Bugs: Arthropods Unite to Tell Their Side of the Story*](#). Cooper Square Publishing, LLC.

Ages 4-8

Synopsis: A look at bugs from their perspective...how they are important and not as gross as some people think!

Bonwill, A. (2011). [*Bug and Bear*](#). Marlow, L. (Illus.). Amazon Children's Publishing.

Ages 4-8

Synopsis: Bear is sleepy but Bug wants to play. Bear is mean and tells Bug to go away, then feels bad for hurting her friend and apologizes.

Brennen-Nelson, D. (2011). [*Buzzy the Bumblebee*](#). Monroe, M.G. (Illus.). Farmington Hills, MI: Sleeping Bear Press.

Ages 4-8

Synopsis: Buzzy doubts himself when he reads a book that says bumblebees weren't meant to fly. He must gather his courage and try for himself, finding that there is a lot to explore he never thought possible.

Bronson, T. C. (2002). *Tiny Snail*. Fayetteville, AR: Bookaroos Pub. Inc.

Ages 3 and up; Entertaining

Synopsis: Tiny Snail has to face wind, rain, and other dangers as she makes the long journey to live under the Maple Tree.

Brown, E.M. (2007). *Aristotle: The Firefly's Message*. Schuna, R.L. (Illus.). Parker, CO: Outskirts Press.

Ages 6-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: A young boy in Ancient Greece finds a firefly with a broken wing. After it heals, the firefly asks to be let go and sets off some very unusual events.

Bubula, J.R. (2006). *Ahboo and the Spiders*. Faust, L.A. (Illus.). Bloomington, IN: Trafford Publishing.

Synopsis: Mr. Ahboo the isopod has found a new place to live. Unfortunately, some spiders are also interested in it. Can these arthropods all get along?

Bunting, E. (2002). *Christmas Cricket*. Bush, T. (Illus.). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages 4-8

Synopsis: Cricket finds himself one evening near a warm, special place full of light from a large indoor tree. He begins singing, but then hears other voices and is surprised by what he sees.

Cain, S. (2007). *The Crunching Munching Caterpillar*. Tickle, J. (Illus.). Tiger Tales.

Ages: 3-6

Synopsis: A hungry caterpillar wants to fly. His friend Butterfly recommends he go to sleep, and when caterpillar wakes up he discovers he CAN fly!

Cannon, J. (2000). *Crickwing*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages 6-9

Synopsis: Crickwing is an artistic cockroach. He minds his own business until he starts getting picked on, so he turns to bullying some leaf-cutter ants in response.

Cantu Giricz, I. (2010). *Goody Goody Gumdrops*. Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Insect athletes are about to start a race for a prize, but something stops them and no one runs. However, they are all awarded with gumdrops anyway.

Carle, E. (1990). *Very Quiet Cricket*. New York, NY: Putnam Juvenile.

Ages: 2-6; Entertaining

Synopsis: When a cricket is born, he tries to sing to his fellow insects, but nothing happens. Then that evening when he sees another cricket, he finds he is able to greet her easily with song!

Cecil, R. (2012). *Horsefly and Honeybee*. New York, NY: Henry Holt and Co. (BYR)

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Horsefly and Honeybee don't want to share the same flower, but when they are both caught by a frog, they must work together to escape.

Centers, S. (2006). *Flutter by Butterfly*. Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

Synopsis: Sam the butterfly learns from Belle the frog about some of life's mysteries.

Clancy, S. (2010). *Violet, the Fuzzy Honeybee*. Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Violet the honeybee has a fun day in store...she'll work in the garden and spend time with her fellow bees.

Climo, S. (1982). *The Cobweb Christmas*. Manning, J. (Illus.). New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Everyone likes to visit Tante for Christmas, and she welcomes them all, human or animal. But the spiders are left out until they spin beautiful cobwebs to decorate her tree.

Cloutier, T. (2011). *Firefly Freddie*. Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: A story about being who you are!

Colborn, M. P. (2008). *Rainy Day Slug*. Grover, L.A. (Illus.). Seattle, WA: Sasquatch Books.

Ages: 3-6; Entertaining

Synopsis: Slimy the banana slug decides he wants to do something other than eat all day, so he sets out on an adventure and surprises a little boy when he finds himself inside a house.

Coleman, C. (2006). *Zubie the Lightning Bug*. Nielson, G. (Illus.). Moorpark, CA: The Parent Brigade Company.

Ages 5 and up

Synopsis: Zubie the lightning bug has great conversations with his mother, developing the maternal-child bond.

Cosgrove, S. (2001). *Flutterby Fly*. New York, NY: Price Stern Sloan.

Ages 5-9

Synopsis: Moral story about being who you are and not spreading gossip.

Cox, S. (2004). *Baxter the Butterfly*. Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

Ages 9-12

Synopsis: Baxter is impatient to become a butterfly, and asks all his friends for suggestions.

Cox, T. and Ruble, E. (2011) *Liddil Gets Her Light*. St. Louis, MO: Guardian Angel Publishing, Inc.

Synopsis: Liddil the lightning bug must take baby steps to learn how to use her light.

Cozza, L. (2009). *A Bug in the Tub*. Bloomington, IN: Xlibris Corporation.
Entertaining

Synopsis: A little bug in a tub has many adventures!

Crawford, S. (2009) *The Pink Spider*. Baltimore, MD: Sensitive Sounds.

Ages: 2-13; Entertaining

Synopsis: Only is a spider that enjoys exploring the farm and house where he lives.

Crayne, C. (2012). *Please Don't Step On Us*. North Charleston, NC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Synopsis: A spiders and his friends try to be convincing about why people shouldn't squish them.

Cress Eller, C. (2008) *Carnella Caterpillar: Jeepers Creepers*. Schandy, R. & Wooten, N. (Illus.). Milwaukee, WI: Mirror Publishing. .

Ages: Up to 10

Synopsis: Carnella is a special needs caterpillar. Her friends help get her around in innovative ways.

Cress Eller, C. (2010) *Madelyn Butterfly and Emma Cricket Wing It*. Colla, J. C. (Illus.). Milwaukee, WI: Mirror Publishing. .

Ages: 3-9

Synopsis: Madalyn and Emma are good friends who help each other discover what's really important.

Cronin, D. (2003). *Diary of a Worm*. Bliss, H. (Illus.). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: The story of a normal worm living a normal life with his friends and family.

Cronin, D. (2008). *Diary of a Fly*. Bliss, H. (Illus.). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: The story of a fly who is bothered *by* siblings and likes *to* bother humans.

Cronin, D. (2008). *Diary of a Spider*. Bliss, H. (Illus.). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: The story of a spider who is more scared of you than you are of him!

Cross, J. (2009). *Sadie the Ladybug*. Bohart, L. (Illus.). Sarasota, FL: The Peppertree Press.
Entertaining

Synopsis: Sadie discovers her true purpose while on an adventure.

Cude, J. (2008). *The Getcha Bug*. Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc. & Enterprises.
Entertaining

Synopsis: This bug tickles wherever he goes!

Cullagh, Y. (2006). *Sebastian the Dragonfly*. BookSurge Publishing

Synopsis: Sebastian the Dragonfly only wants to make a friend.

Culver, J. (2006). *How Anansi Learned Self-Esteem*. Bloomington, IN: Trafford Publishing.

Ages 9-12

Synopsis: Anansi learns about self-respect and confidence in this series of 10 stories.

Cyrus, K. (2001). *Oddhopper Opera*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages 5-10; Entertaining

Synopsis: The garden is alive with all the adventures of the insects that live there!

Cyrus, K. (2010). *Big Rig Bugs*. New York, NY: Walker & Company.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: Insects are like miniature machines...cleaning up food and debris and soil like a truck cleans up at a construction site.

David, L. (1999). *Beetle Boy*. New York, NY: Doubleday Books for Young Readers.

Ages: 6-9; Entertaining

Synopsis: Gregory Sampson wakes up as a giant beetle, but no one but his best friend Michael seems to notice.

Davie, B. N. (2011) *My Bumblebee Friend*. Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Synopsis: Miss Eddy and a bumblebee must learn to share Miss Eddy's garden.

Davis, S. L. A. (2010). *Lee the Bee*. Davis, J. (Illus.). Milton, IN: Kids at Heart Publishing and Books.

Ages: Up to 10; Entertaining

Synopsis: Bees go in search of a special flower for their princess.

Day, V. (2007). *Slinky the Slug*. Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

Ages: Entertaining

Synopsis: Slinky the Slug lives in a garden and has many adventures there.

Degen, B. (2000). *Daddy is a Doodlebug*. New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages: 3-6; Entertaining

Synopsis: A doodlebug and his daddy go on a variety of everyday adventures together such as flying kites, visiting the zoo, and riding a train.

Delessert, E. (2010). *Spartacus the Spider*. Mankato, MN: Creative Editions.

Ages: 1 and up; Entertaining

Synopsis: Spartacus the spider needs to devise a way to better weave a web.

Depner, J. (2009). *Aunt Francy the Ant*. Chicago, IL: Independent Publisher.

Ages 6-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Ant Francy and her nephew Freddy spend the day playing, eating, and enjoying everyday activities.

DeVorkin, M. (2011). *Beau the Bee*. Milwaukee, WI: Mirror Publishing. .

Ages: 3-9

Synopsis: Beau is a bee who is content with himself even though he is different than other bees. Share in his adventures!

Diaz, J. M. & Mannino, S. (2009). *The True Story of the Fly in the Pie*. Pesce, F. (Illus). Bloomington, IN: Xlibris Corporation.

Entertaining

Synopsis: A group of flies are tired of eating trash, so decide to seek out some fresh food. But at what cost?

Dodson, E. (2010). *Speckle the Spider*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press.

Ages: 3-6

Synopsis: Speckle the spider is tired of the common life and seeks out fame and fortune. But can too much celebrity be a bad thing?

Dolese, O (2010). *Mazy Lazy*. Debnath, S. (Illus.). Milwaukee, WI: Mirror Publishing.

Ages: 3-8

Synopsis: Mazy is so lazy she can't even fly to her friend's birthday party!

Down, R. (2010). *The Cricket and the Shepherd Boy*. North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: A cricket tells a shepherd about the upcoming winter. Together, they travel to find a baby born in a manger.

Downing, J. (2010). *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed Some Bugs*. Gretna, LA: Pelican Publishing Company, Inc.

Ages: 5-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: An old lady swallows a myriad of different insects!

Duckett, A.G. (2009). *One Step at a Time: Or 3 Creepy Crawly Things*. Lee, A.B. (Illus.). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Ages 9-12

Synopsis: Three centipedes discover that having 100 legs is cool!

Duncan Edwards, P. (1996) *Some Smug Slug*. Cole, H. (Illus.). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: A slug ignores warnings that he shouldn't climb what he thinks is just a slope. Instead, it's a toad that wants to have him for dinner!

Durango, J. (2007). *[Pest Fest](#)*. Cyrus, K. (Illus.). New York, NY: Simon & Schuster Books For Young Readers
Ages: 3-7; Entertaining

Synopsis: Fly would like to win the honor of best pest...but does he have too much competition?

Eastman, P.D. (1958). *[Sam and the Firefly](#)*. New York, NY: Random House Books for Young Readers.
Ages: 5-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Sam is an owl who becomes friends with a firefly.

Eddy, O. (2008). *[The Hatchling](#)*. Houston, TX: Strategic Book Publishing and Rights Agency.
Ages 9-12; Entertaining

Synopsis: The Websters and Silksmiths are two families of spiders living in the same house with the human Anderson family. Follow the adventures of the three families as they cross paths.

Edwards, P.D. (1999). *[Ed & Fred Flea](#)*. Cole, H. (Illus.). New York, NY: Hyperion Books for Children.
Ages: All ages; Entertaining

Synopsis: Two brother fleas have been living on a dog, and now Ed is getting ready to leave. Fred feigns sickness so he can stay, but is he only asking for trouble?

Egielski, R. (1998). *[Jazper](#)*. New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers.
Ages 3-7; Entertaining

Synopsis: Jazper housesits for some moths and learns their magic transformation spells. Now he is amazing all the other insects with his morphing tricks, while the moths are preparing to rid themselves of the competition.

Egielski, R. (1995). *[Buz](#)*. New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers.
Ages: 3-7; Entertaining

Synopsis: Buz is an insect that is accidentally swallowed by a boy. The boy takes medication to rid himself of Buz, who now desperately needs to make his escape!

Fairchild, S. (2005). *[The Plight of Queen Bee](#)*. Key, P. (Illus.). A Better Be Write Publisher.
Ages: Entertaining

Synopsis: Detective Brown from Scotland Yard must find the culprit in the theft of the Queen Bee's nectar.

Faulkner, K. (2003). *[Bee Gets a Sweater](#)*. Lambert, J. (Illus.). San Diego, CA: Silver Dolphin Books.
Ages: 3-5; Entertaining

Synopsis: Bee decides that being plain black is boring, and goes about designing different sweaters until she discovers that the black and yellow one fits just right!

Faulkner, K. (2003). [*Caterpillar's Dream*](#). Lambert, J. (Illus.). San Diego, CA: Silver Dolphin Books.

Ages: 3-5

Synopsis: Caterpillar would like to fly, but her friends are discouraging until they all find a strange creature emerging from a chrysalis.

Faulkner, K. (2003). [*Follow the Silver Trail*](#). Lambert, J. (Illus.). San Diego, CA: Silver Dolphin Books.

Ages: 3-5; Entertaining

Synopsis: When insects find their food is disappearing, they see a strange silver trail that may just lead to the culprit!

Fea-Clark, K. (2010). [*Naomi the Queen Bee*](#). Peruzzo, N. (Illus.). Milwaukee, WI: Mirror Publishing.

Ages: 3-9

Synopsis: Naomi, being the Queen bee, has a big responsibility!

Feldman, K. (2011). [*Glorious Wings*](#). Frederick, MD: PublishAmerica, Inc.

Synopsis: Friends Butterfly and Bee discover that although each can fly, they can't fly the same height. But these differences don't matter!

Fetters, G. E., & Cole, M. (2010). [*Horace the Hopper*](#). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Ages 9-12; Entertaining

Synopsis: Horace wants adventure and sets out to get it, asking his friends' advice and experiencing trials and tribulations along the way.

Fine, E. & Pels, W. (2005). [*Cricket at the Manger*](#). Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press.

Ages 5-7

Synopsis: Cricket tells about his experience at the manger.

Fisher, L. (1981). [*Butterfly and the Stone*](#). Jardine, T. (Illus.). Gilsum, NH: Stemmer House Publishing.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: What Butterfly thinks is a stone is actually a turtle!

Flores, T. (2004). [*The Spider Who Never Gave Up*](#). Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: Sparky is a spider that can't spin a web, but through help and encouragement from others, finally does. This story was written by a young boy with Cystic Fibrosis who wrote it as a parallel to his own struggles.

Flynn, D.K. (2007). [*Freddie the Firefly*](#). Frederick, MD: PublishAmerica, Inc.

Entertaining

Synopsis: Freddie wants to win a flying contest, so trains as much as he can. But his parents don't want him to compete, and falling in love also complicates matters.

Freeman, D. (2004). [*Manuelo, the Playing Mantis*](#). McCue, L. (Illus.). New York, NY: Viking Juvenile.

Ages: 3-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Manuelo wants to play music just as crickets and katydids do. He learns how to fashion a cello out of common materials and fulfills his dream.

Fricke, P. (2009). [*Night of the Bedbugs*](#). Berkeley, CA: Image Comics.

Ages 9-12; Entertaining

Synopsis: Bedbugs friendly? In this story they are, when they calm a little girl and sing her a lullaby.

Fronzaglio, R. (2011). [*Mommy and Me Let Insects Free*](#). Deliorman, S. (Illus.). Milwaukee, WI: Mirror Publishing.

Ages: 3-9

Synopsis: This book includes ten different stories about an insect, a little boy, and his mother.

Glade, D. (2008). [*The Travel Adventures of Lilly P. Badilly*](#). Hollywood, FL: Smart Poodle Publishing

Ages: 6-9

Synopsis: Millipede Lilly and her grandparents travel to Costa Rica, where she learns about a culture that is much different than her home at the Miami International Airport.

Gollub, M.W. & Hanke, K. (2000) [*The Jazz Fly*](#). Santa Rosa, CA: Tortuga Press

Ages: 4-7; Entertaining

Synopsis: A jazz loving fly listens to the sounds of various animals and incorporates it into his musical performance.

Goodman, E. (2005). [*Anton & Camilla*](#). Bloomington, IN: Trafford.

Ages: 4-12

Synopsis: Anton and Camilla are of different species, but can still be friends!

Goppel, C. (2005). [*Anna Aphid*](#). New York, NY: North-South Books, Inc.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Anna the aphid wants adventure, and to her, a lightbulb, a bedroom, and a human head are all vast universes to explore!

Gran, J. (2007). [*Big Bug Surprise*](#). New York, NY: Scholastic Press.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Prunella, budding child entomologist, helps save the day when her class is invaded by a swarm of bees.

Grealish, M. M. (1997). [*Just Plain Worm*](#). Albany, NY: Ballenwyck Pub Corporation

Ages: 5-7

Synopsis: A lonely worm's life changes once he discovers friendship.

Greban, Q. (2007). [*Mommy, I Love you*](#). Milk & Cookies Press

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Suzette the ladybug meets a variety of characters in her quest to find her lost mother.

Greenburg, D.T. (1995). [*Slugs*](#). Chess, V. (Illus.). Chicago, IL: Little Brown Yamanja Sings.

Ages 6-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Slugs can be served up for lunch or taken out on a leash...until things go the other way...

Greenburg, D. T. (1997). [*Bugs!*](#) Munsinger, L.M. (Illus.). Little, Brown Young Readers.

Ages:

Synopsis: Bugs are creepy, or are they?

Gryffon, J. (2008). [*Clarence: How a Cricket Found His Way*](#). Windstorm Creative.

Synopsis: Clarence the cricket has malformed wings...it bothers him but his family loves him all the same. But when a storm hits one day, it's his uniqueness that helps him survive.

Gurule, T. (2009). [*Izzy the Dizzy Dragonfly*](#). Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: Izzy is a strange dragonfly...she flies around until she's dizzy! Her friends don't like it, but it's what makes her unique.

Halmann, J. (2009). [*Little Black Ant on Park Street*](#). Rietz, K. (Illus.). Norwalk, CT: Soundprints.

Ages: 4-7

Synopsis: Little black ant spends her time searching for food on Park Street for herself and her colony.

Harley, B. (2004). [*Sarah's Story*](#). Aldridge, E. (Illus.). Berkeley, CA: Ten Speed Press.

Ages 5-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Sarah meets a talking ant and is asked to do a special mission by the ant queen herself!

Hatch, J. (1996). [*The Dragonfly of Lookout Mountain*](#). Mount Shasta, CA: Earth Heart.

Ages: 8-12; Entertaining

Synopsis: A dragonfly emerges from a pond, and after he flies away, meets a girl who is a fire lookout on a nearby mountain.

Hazen, L.E. (2009). [*The Amazing Trail of Seymour Snail*](#). Cushman, D. (Illus.). New York, NY: Henry Holt and Co.

Ages: 6-9; Entertaining

Synopsis: Seymour is an artist. When he gets hired by Speedy Arts Gallery, he's excited until he discovers he has to do grunt work. But maybe his big break will be soon!

Hector, J. (2010). [*The Gentleman Bug*](#). New York, NY: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

Ages: 2-5; Entertaining

Synopsis: The Gentleman Bug is a sophisticated school teacher living in a garden. He is perfectly happy, but then Librarian Ladybug enters his life, and it's a whirlwind romance!

Helmetag, P. & Murdock, K. H. [*Cecily Cicada*](#). Annapolis, MD: Possum Products Co

Ages 2-8

Synopsis: A look at the life of a seventeen-year cycle cicada named Cecily.

Heo, Y. (1999). [*The Not-So Itsy Bitsy Spider*](#). Franklin, TN: Intervisual/Piggy Toes Press.

Ages: 3 and Up; Entertaining

Synopsis: Insects don't want spider to know that they are planning a party!

Heos, B. (2011). [*What to Expect When You're Expecting Larvae*](#). Jorsch, S. (Illus.). Minneapolis, MN:

Learner Publishing Group.

Ages 7-10; Entertaining

Synopsis: Insect parents to be can learn all about where to lay their eggs, what their larvae will eat, and how to protect their offspring.

Herman, G. (1998). [*Lowly Worm Joins the Circus*](#). New York, NY: Simon Spotlight.

Ages 6-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Lowly the worm does some high flying acts in the circus.

Hickman, K. (2010). [*I Will Eat Anything*](#). Barr, S. (Illus.). Albuquerque, NM: Quillrunner Publishing LLC

Ages:

Synopsis: A praying mantis and hungry spider lead kids on a journey into what role insects play in nature.

Hood, S. (1999). [*Jumping Jack the Grasshopper*](#). Pleasantville, NY: Reader's Digest Children's Books.

Ages 3-6

Synopsis: Jack the grasshopper is lonely until he meets some friends.

Hoose, P.M. & Hoose, H. (2004). [*Hey, Little Ant*](#). Tilly, D. (Illus.). Berkeley, CA: Tricycle Press.

Ages: 3-7; Entertaining

Synopsis: What would happen if you were about to squish a bug and it started talking to you?

Hosler, J. (2000). [*Clan Apis*](#). (2nd ed.) Columbus, OH: Active Synapse.

Ages 3 and up

Synopsis: Biography of Nyuki the honeybee.

Jackson, C. & Cowan, C. (1997). [*Katie's Plight*](#). Maciel, J. (Illus.). Northridge, CT: Beajo Publisher.

Ages: 4-12

Synopsis: This story entails the friendship of Spider Spike and Caterpillar Katie, who will soon turn into a butterfly.

Jenkins, S. (2007). [*The Spider House: Battle for the Wall*](#). Bloomington, IN: iUniverse, Inc.

Ages: Entertaining

Synopsis: Bateman kills the general of the Spider's Army and is thrust out of the safety of his spider community. Now he must face a house, an evil little girl, and the garden all alone in order to get back to his family. And the revenge of the Spider's Army is right at his heels.

Johnson, K.P. (2004). [*The Adventures of the Itty Bitty Spider and Itty Bitty Mouse*](#). Smith, L. (Illus.).

Raleigh, NC: Pentland Press.

Ages 5-7

Synopsis: Friends spider and mouse go to the store where they catch a chipmunk stealing and teach him the right from wrong.

Jones, P. (1983). [*The Brown Bottle*](#). Center City, MN: Hazelden Publishing and Educational Services.

Ages: 9 and up

Synopsis: The mystery of what's inside a brown bottle causes a caterpillar to push away all his friends and focus only on the bottle, with disastrous results.

Joyce, W. (1996). [*The Leaf Men and the Brave Good Bugs*](#). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: The insects must save their garden from the Spider Queen. Will they need to call in the Leaf Men to the rescue?

Kain, K.E. (1999). [*Broken Bones: The Science Spiders Investigate Forces*](#). Columbia, SC: Ranch Works.

Ages 5-8

Synopsis: Namila, Fets and Pro learn about bones and how they can break.

Kauffman-Gracia, K. (2004). [*Little Bug & Friends: It's Good to be Small*](#). Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

Synopsis: Little bug is smaller than all his friends, which makes him feel out of place. But sometimes being small can have advantages.

Kewiki. (2011). [*Wilber the Ant*](#). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: Can a city ant enjoy the country life?

Kidd, J. A. (2009). [*Zachary Zoom*](#). Houston, TX: Eloquent Books.

Synopsis: Zachary Zoom is a tiny boy living inside the insect kingdom, The Realm of the Back Yard, who runs the local train, the Insect Express. But when some evil Scorpions try to take it down, it's up to Zachary and his insect friends to save the train!

Knudsen, M. (2008). *Bugged!* New York, NY: Kane Press.

Ages: Entertaining

Synopsis: Mosquitoes are chasing Riley. Is there anything he can do to keep them away once and for all?

Kingsbury, K. (2012). *Far Flutterby*. Bell, J.A. (Illus.). Grand Rapids, MI: Zonderkidz.

Ages: 4 and up.

Synopsis: Cody the Caterpillar wonders if there is more to life than just the trees and the ground where he lives. He has heard there is a place called Far Flutterby where he will go someday.

Kroll, V. (2011) *Mosquito*. Leplatt, B. (Illus.). Gretna, LA: Pelican Publishing.

Ages: 5-8

Synopsis: Mosquito is a pest to everyone, animals and humans alike. He finally pays the price when he bothers one too many...

Kychtwald, K., Dychtwald, M., & Zabolski, G. (2008). *Gideon's Dream: A Tale of New Beginnings*. Zabolski, D. (Illus.). New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Gideon works in the treetops, and is horrified one day when a tree leaf breaks off with him still on it. It carries him through the air and as he sees many wondrous things, he finds he enjoys flying!

Laden, N. (2000). *Roberto, the Insect Architect*. San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books.

Ages: Up to 12; Entertaining

Synopsis: Roberto the termite moves to the big city to pursue his dream of being an architect.

Lally, S. (2001). *A Hive for the Honeybee*. New York, NY: Scholastic Paperbacks.

Ages 10-14

Synopsis: Worker bees Belle and Thora learn from a pair of drones that there might be more to life than what they realized.

Langham, T. (2004). *Creepy Crawly Calypso*. Harter, D. (Illus.). Cambridge, MA: Barefoot Books.

Ages: Up to 7; Entertaining

Synopsis: Insects play in an instrumental band.

Lane, B. & Lane, A. (1999). *Abigail the Friendly Cricket: Flowers & Friends*. Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: Abigail is a friendly cricket, willing to be kind to everyone!

Larson, G. (1998). *There's a Hair in my Dirt*. New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers

Ages: All ages; Entertaining

Synopsis: A children's tale about a worm from Gary Larson's interesting perspective.

Lehman-Wilzig, T. (2009). [*Zvuvi's Israel*](#). Topaz, K. (Illus.). Minneapolis, MN: Kar-ben Publishing.
Ages 3-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Zvuvi the fly is traveling around Israel and will take you with him as you search for him in different locations.

Lee, L. K. (2012). [*Bonnie the Honeybee and the Case of the Butterfly Blues*](#). Cumming, GA: Boutique of Quality Books.

Synopsis: Bonnie would rather be a butterfly than a bee, but her mother teaches her that we all have something special to offer.

Lerner, H. (2007). [*Walter's Treasure*](#). Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.
Ages 9-12

Synopsis: Walter demonstrates friendship, courage, and cooperation when he finds a buried treasure.

Lionni, L. (1977). [*Flea Story: I Want to Stay Here! I Want to Go There!*](#) New York, NY: Knopf Books for Young Readers.

Ages 4-8

Synopsis: Two fleas hop from one host to another, arguing all the way until they finally realize that everyone has a right to his own opinion.

Lionni, L. (1962). [*Inch by Inch*](#). New York, NY: Astor-Honor, Inc.
Ages: 5-6

Synopsis: An inchworm takes pride in the fact he can measure anything. When someone challenges him to measure a song, he must come up with a creative solution.

Lobel, A. (1978). [*Grasshopper on the Road*](#). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers
Ages 6-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: A grasshopper meets all sorts of interesting characters as he travels a road to adventure.

Lombardi, K. (2006). [*Little Spider's First Web*](#). Williamson, J. (Illus.). Pleasantville, NY: Reader's Digest Association, Inc.

Synopsis: Little spider loves his mother's handiwork with a web, and through perseverance is able to spin his own.

Lord, J. V. and Burroway, J. (1975) [*The Giant Jam Sandwich*](#). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages: 5-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Will making a giant jam sandwich stop a hoard of invading wasps?

Luders, M. (2008). [*The Ants Go Marching*](#). Hayes, G. (Illus.). New York, NY: HarperFestival.
Ages: 3-7

Synopsis: Watch where the ants go when they march.

Lumpkin, L. (1998). [*Lilly's Pond: The Adventure of Silly Willy Caterpillie*](#). Lewisville, NC: Micronova Systems, Incorporated.

Ages: 4-11

Synopsis: A story about how change is a part of life.

Matheson, D., Huffman, C. (ed.) (2004). [*Ruby Lee the Bumble Bee: A Bee's Bit of Wisdom*](#). Barcita, P. (Illus.). Chesapeake, VA: Bumble Bee Publishing.

Ages: 4-12

Synopsis: Ruby Lee helps Ashley face challenges.

McCarthy, T. (2006). [*Webster*](#). Bloomington, IN: Trafford Publishing.

Ages 9-12; Entertaining

Synopsis: Garden spiders Norbert and Webster decide to live in a house. But when the house falls down, Norbert disappears, and it's up to Webster to search for his brother.

McCord, K. G. [*The Ants Go Marching One by One*](#). Doral, FL: Santillana USA Publishing Company, Incorporated

Ages: 5-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Based on the folk song.

McDermott, G. (1972). [*Anansi the Spider: A Tale from the Ashanti*](#). New York, NY: Henry Holt and Company Books for Young Readers.

Ages 6-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Ashanti the spider is threatened by predators and saved by his sons. Which should he reward in this retelling of a West African folk tale?

McDonald, M. (2005). [*Ant and Honeybee: What a Pair!*](#) Karas, G. B. (Illus.) Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press.

Ages: Entertaining

Synopsis: Ant and Honeybee attend Cricket's costume party.

McDonald, M. (2001). [*Insects Are My Life*](#). New York, NY: Scholastic, Inc.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Amanda loves insects, which drives everyone crazy except a friend who is equally interested in reptiles.

McElligott, M. (2007). [*Bean Thirteen*](#). New York, NY: Putnam Juvenile.

Ages: 5 and Up

Synopsis: Ralph and Flora have thirteen beans...how can they eat them evenly and not be left with one unlucky bean?

McFadden, P. (2008). [*Oh No, Woolly Bear!*](#) Coxon, M. (Illus.). Long Island City, NY: Starbright Books.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: Woolly Bear Caterpillar needs someplace warm to nestle for the winter. He looks everywhere until he finds a good spot with a good friend.

McGrew, T. (2005). [*Sparky the Firefly*](#). Carlsbad, CA: Penton Overseas Inc.

Entertaining

Synopsis: Sparky the firefly is ready for a party!

McGuinness, E.J. (2008). [*Bee and Me*](#). Brown, H. (Illus.). Denver, CO: Accord Publishing.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: A little boy is terrified when a bee enters his room. But the bee assures him of all the good that bees do, such as making honey.

McKelvey, D. K. & R. Egielski, R. (2001). [*Locust Pocus!: A Book to Bug You*](#). New York, NY: Philomel.

Ages: 3-7; Entertaining

Synopsis: Poetry about silly insects for a budding entomologist!

Meister, C. & Jones, C.C. (eds.) (2008). [*Bug Race!*](#). Senturk, B. (Illus.). North Mankato, MN: Picture Window Books.

Ages 4-9; Entertaining

Synopsis: Bugs compete in a footrace.

Meschke, N.S. (2011). [*Meeting Aldo Ant: Learning to Appreciate Mexican Culture*](#). Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: Baxter meets Aldo, who is from Mexico and learns all about the culture.

Metzger, S. (1997). [*Ladybug's Birthday*](#). Williamson, J. (Illus.). New York, NY: Scholastic, Inc.

Ages: Entertaining

Synopsis: Ladybug has a small house and only invites a couple of friends to her birthday party, but the party goers keep coming...

Moscatello, R., Moscatello, L. & Cox, L. (2010). [*Aerola's Big Trip*](#). Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Synopsis: Aerola visits all sorts of places and learns about state flowers.

Moss, O. (2008). [*Skipper to the Rescue*](#). New York: NY: Scholastic Paperbacks.

Ages 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Skipper and Dazzle are enjoying time in the meadow until a storm hits. Now they have to escape the rain and help a newly emerged butterfly get to safety.

Mrs. A. (2006). [*A Friend with No Name*](#). Parker, CO: Outskirts Press.

Synopsis: A little worm seeks out a friend.

Murphy, K. (2002). [*The Boll Weevil Ball*](#). New York, NY: Henry Holt & Company Books for Young Readers.

Ages: 4-7

Synopsis: Redd the beetle is very small, so small he can't fly or reach places other beetles can. But his uniqueness is what makes him special, and he knows he can do whatever he puts his mind to!

Murphy, S.J. (2001). [*Bug Dance*](#). Santoro, C. (Illus.). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages: 3 and Up; Entertaining

Synopsis: Centipede is having trouble learning the new dance in gym class.

Murray, S. (2006). [*Linda the Ladybug Goes to Heaven*](#). Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

Synopsis: Linda the Ladybug experiences Heaven.

Nargi, L. (2011). [*The Honeybee Man*](#). Brooker, K. (Illus.). New York, NY: Schwartz & Wade Books.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: Fred is a beekeeper who tends his friends very well so they will produce honey for him.

Nestor, L. & Monroe, M. G. (2001). [*Foursome the Spider*](#). Farmington Hills, MI: Sleeping Bear Press.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Foursome the Spider plays golf and makes friends.

Newton Chocolate, D. M. & Albers, D. (1997). [*Spider and the Sky God: An Akan Legend \(Legends of the World\)*](#). Mahwah, NJ: Troll Communications

Ages: 7 and up; Entertaining

Synopsis: Spider must convince Sky God that not only can he spin webs well, but that he can also tell good stories.

Noble, T. H. (2011). [*A Christmas Spider's Miracle*](#). Costanza, S. (Illus.). Farmington Hills, MI: Sleeping Bear Press.

Ages 6-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Two poor mothers, a spider and a peasant, work hard to provide for their families. One Christmas the peasant brings home the tree where the spider mother lives. Mother spider then decorates the tree with her silk, making it a special Christmas for all.

Ocker, R. (2000). [*Last Name Ant*](#). Boyle, T. (Illus.). Street Saint Pubns.

Ages 9-12; Entertaining

Synopsis: A colony of very unusual ants lives in the Clancys' home. Read all about their adventures!

Olson, K.N. (2007). [*Entopia*](#). Challeen, J. (Illus.). Cornerstone Book Publishers.

Ages 9-12; Entertaining

Synopsis: William the bee is sucked up into a store-owner's vacuum and discovers a whole menagerie of different insects living together in a newly established community.

O'Callahan, J. (2003). [*Herman and Marguerite*](#). O'Callahan, L. (Illus.). Atlanta, GA: Peachtree Pub Ltd.
Ages 4-8

Synopsis: An earthworm and a caterpillar become friends despite their differences.

O'Malley, K. (1999). [*Leo Cockroach: Toy Tester*](#). New York, NY: Walker & Company.
Ages 5-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Leo the cockroach enjoys his toy testing job, but not his boss...an insect hating man. When Leo tries for a job across the street, he finds it may be worse than what he had.

O'Malley, K. (2002). [*Little Buggy*](#). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company
Ages: 3-7

Synopsis: With a little help from his dad, Little Buggy overcomes obstacles and learns how to fly.

O'Neal, K. (2006). [*I Wish I Could Fly/I Can Fly*](#). Centennial, CO: Lifevest Publishing, Inc.

Synopsis: Two books about a butterfly's life...one about the caterpillar who wants to fly, and the butterfly that already can.

Oppenheim, J. (1991). [*Eency Weency Spider*](#). Schindler, S.D. (Illus.). New York, NY: Bantam Books for Young Readers.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: In this take off of the famous rhyme, the little spider meets all sorts of fairy tale characters during his adventures.

Paolo, R. (2011). [*The Wasp That Thought She Was a Bee*](#). Frederick, MD: PublishAmerica, Inc.

Synopsis: Chris is a wasp that thinks she is a bee due to her black and yellow coloration. But she soon finds out she's something else entirely!

Parker, A. (1999). [*It's An Ants Life: My Story of Life in a Nest*](#). Hayward, T. & Stower, A. (Illus.). Pleasantville, NY: Reader's Digest Young Families.

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: Journal entries "written" by ants and other creatures about their everyday lives.

Parker Donaldson, M. (2011). [*Andy the Soldier Ant*](#). Lemos, C. (Illus.). Milwaukee, WI: Mirror Publishing.
Ages: 3-9; Entertaining

Synopsis: Andy's ant kingdom lives near the White House in Washington D.C. It's Andy's job to protect his colony, but can Andy save it from a threat that may destroy it?

Parker Donaldson, M. (2011). [*Timothy Firefly and the Fourth of July*](#). Lemos, C. (Illus.). Milwaukee, WI: Mirror Publishing.

Ages: 3-9; Entertaining

Synopsis: Timothy the firefly experiences the 4th of July.

Pedano, L. (2009). [*The Procrastinating Caterpillar*](#). Colla, J.C. (Illus.). Milwaukee, WI: Mirror Publishing.

Ages: Up to 7

Synopsis: A caterpillar is hesitant about building a cocoon because he fears change.

Penny, G. (2008). [*No More Stink Bugs*](#). Florence, SC: James A. Rock & Company Publishers.

Entertaining

Synopsis: Stinky Foot is a smelly spider who must find a way to overcome his problem.

Perkins, J. (2007). [*Ladybug Baby Bug*](#). Perkins, M. (Illus.). Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: Explore with a baby ladybug as she learns about new sights and sounds, her new family and the other adventures of someone just entering the world.

Pfeffer, W. (2011). [*Firefly at Stonybrook Farm*](#). Mikec, L. (Illus.). Norwalk, CT: Soundprints.

Ages 7 and up

Synopsis: A firefly emerges, seeks out a mate, and tries to avoid capture as he goes through his life.

Pichon, L. (2005). [*The Very Ugly Bug*](#). Tiger Tales.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: An ugly bug wishes she was pretty like her friends. But when she dons a disguise to make herself more beautiful, she finds that she is more desirable to predators! She takes off her disguise and the predators are scared away, showing that she looks the way she does for a good reason.

Pietraggalo, L. (2009). [*Scudder Bug's Amazing Adventure*](#). Van Jura, J. (Illus.). Great Books 4 Kids.

Ages: Entertaining

Synopsis: Scudder Bug can't fly, but he still manages to explore outer space!

Pinczes, E.J. (1993) [*One Hundred Hungry Ants*](#). Mackain, B. (Illus.). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: A group of 100 ants discover they can get to the food better divided up rather than single file.

Pinczes, E.J. (1995). [*A Remainder of One*](#). MacKain, B. (Illus.). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: A Private ant manages to divide up the line of marching ants he is in so that he is not left out.

Plomer, W. (2009). [*The Butterfly Ball and the Grasshopper's Feast*](#). Aldridge, A. (Illus.). Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press.

Ages: 5 and up; Entertaining

Synopsis: Come see what the Butterfly Ball is all about!

Poliser, B.L. (1999). *[Insect Soup](#)*. Clark, D. (Illus.). Silver Spring, MD: Rainbow Morning Music Alternatives.

Ages 5-7; Entertaining

Synopsis: Insects can be fun and unusual, as this book about entomology poetry attests.

Raye, D. (2007). *[Edison the Firefly: & His Buddy Bell](#)*. Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Synopsis: Edison the Firefly is an inventor and learns a lot about science during his adventures.

Redbank, T. (2000). *[Rug Bug](#)*. DiFiori, L. (Illus.). Golden Books.

Ages: Entertaining

Synopsis: A bug gets caught in a rug and a cub helps her escape.

Reid, N. W. (2011). *[The Adventure of Avery the Ant: Experience the Next Children's Classic](#)*. Parker, CO: Outskirts Press.

Ages: 4-18

Synopsis: Avery ant is now an adult and Commander Antselma and her soldiers want Avery to do her duty. Avery doesn't want to work, but to explore, until she talks to a wise old ant who explains the importance of being a grown up.

Risita, S. (2010). *[The Lightning Bugs Strike Back](#)*. Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Ages 9-12; Entertaining

Synopsis: The Lightning Bug soccer team is formed when mud beetle Fabio watches a human version of the game. Now the beetles learn about teamwork as they learn and play the game!

Rosen, M. (2010). *[Tiny Little Fly](#)*. Waldron, K. (Illus.). Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press.

Ages 6-10

Synopsis: A small fly bothers some big beasts!

Rosma, S. (1992). *[Deena the Damselfly](#)*. Carmi, G. (Illus.). New York, NY: Urj Press.

Ages 5-8

Synopsis: Deena is a damselfly nymph and her friends are disappearing, never to return. Soon she discovers the reason...adulthood.

Russ, T. & Rosskilly, J.(2008). *[Bugsters](#)*. Morris, M. & Jennings, R. (Illus.). Woods N Water; Har/Com edition

Ages: 4 and up

Synopsis: A group of interesting insect characters inhabit this book full of life lessons. An audio CD with songs is included to add to the fun.

Sarnat, M. (2000). [*Bug Family Sticker Paper Dolls*](#). Mineola, NY: Dover Publications, Inc.

Ages: Entertaining

Synopsis: Dress up a family of bugs in outfits for all sorts of everyday activities, including going to the beach, gardening, and bedtime.

Sarver, L. (2010). [*The Grateful Spider*](#). Milwaukee, WI: Mirror Publishing. .

Ages 3-8

Synopsis: Spider is unhappy because things aren't going the way he wants them. He meets up with other insects that have had bad luck, but they are still grateful. He learns that appreciation for what you have is important even when bad times strike.

Schaschwary, M. (2009). [*Miss Ronda*](#). Milwaukee, WI: Mirror Publishing.

Ages: 2-7

Synopsis: Avrie's favorite blanket has a hole, and Miss Ronda, a spider, offers to fix it up. Avrie isn't sure whether to trust a spider, so must decide whether to take a chance.

Scherek, B.A. (2002). [*Anthill*](#). Star Arts.

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: Ants industriously rebuild their nest each time it's ruined by something or someone!

Seelenbinder, K. (2008). [*The Wall They Could Not See*](#). Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc. & Enterprises.

Ages 9-12; Entertaining

Synopsis: A fly, butterfly and wasp are in a panic when they can't get through the wall they can't see. And footsteps with bug spray and a fly swatter are fast approaching...

Severo, J.S. (2010). [*The Little Firefly*](#). Hellen, C. (Illus.). Castroville, TX: Black Rose Writing.

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: Pokey the snail and Star the firefly become friends and must face challenges when they become separated from each other.

Shallan, K. (2004). [*The Caterpillar Tree*](#). Franco, D. & Franco, M. (Illus.). Bloomington, IN: Trafford.

Synopsis: All about a quest of discovery!

Shannon-Martin, L. (2004). [*Roach Rally Run!*](#) Lefler, H. (Illus.). Bloomington, IN: Trafford.

Ages 9-12; Entertaining

Synopsis: Share in a hilarious cockroach race!

ShelFish. (2010). [*Bob the Big Bully Bug Discovers Friendship is the Key*](#). Frederick, MD: PublishAmerica, Inc.

Synopsis: Bob is a bully, and he never gets invited to any birthday parties. When another insect challenges him, he discovers that friendship is better than being mean.

Shepard, D. J. (2010). [*Bradybug*](#). Grady, K. (Illus.). St. Louis, MO: Guardian Angel Publishing, Inc.

Synopsis: A ladybug learns about the different names for male and female animals.

Shields, C. D. (2005). [*The Bugliest Bug*](#). Nash, S. (Illus.). Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: There's a big contest afoot, and Damsselfly Dilly wonders who will win it.

Shreeve, E. (2004). [*Hector Afloat*](#). Levy, P.R. (Illus.). Aladdin

Ages: 6 and up; Entertaining

Synopsis: When it begins raining, Hector isn't too concerned. But when his bug hole fills with water and washes him away, it's time to find a new home.

Slade, J.D. and Hovel, B.M. (2010). [*Beckett the Bee's Extraordinary Journey Through Blackberry Land*](#).

North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: Beckett and his bee friends go searching for a place to start a new hive.

Sneed, B. (2005). [*Deputy Harvey and the Ant Cow Caper*](#). New York, NY: Dial.

Ages: 4 and up; Entertaining

Synopsis: Deputy Harvey must solve the mystery of the missing cows in Ant Hill.

Snyder, S. & Johanson, A. (2005). [*The Very Stubborn Centipede*](#). Delray Beach, FL: Kotzig Publishing, Inc.

Ages 7-9; Entertaining

Synopsis: A centipede stubbornly hangs onto a woman's toe!

Soundprints (2012). [*Spider Moves In: Rumbles Cave*](#). Danson, L. (Illus.). Soundprints.

Ages 9-12; Entertaining

Synopsis: Rumbles the Dragon wants to turn his cave into a nice, clean hotel without dirt or cobwebs. Can he convince Spider to leave?

Spinelli, E. (2001). [*Sophie's Masterpiece: A Spider's Tale*](#). Dyer, J. (Illus.) New York, NY: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

Ages: 4 and up; Entertaining

Synopsis: Sophie is an artistic spider, but most people don't appreciate her skills. But one day, she finds a reason to create her best masterpiece yet.

Stadler, J. (1984). [*Hooray for Snail*](#). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: When a snail hits a baseball all the way to the moon, will he have time to make a home run?

Stamps, P. (2010). [*Learning Makes Friends Fun*](#). Frederick, MD: PublishAmerica, Inc.

Synopsis: Hermie the grasshopper loves books more than friends, but can he find a balance with them both?

Stattel, L. (2004). [*The Great Picnic Disaster*](#). Bloomington, IN: Trafford Publishing.

Ages: 4-12; Entertaining

Synopsis: Charlie the ant is in for a disaster at a picnic.

Stoll, S.(2011). [*Ruby the Red Worm's Dirty Job*](#). Waukesha STEM Academy (Illus.). The Argonauts.

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: Ruby the worm takes care of composting. Learn more about this topic from a little red worm who knows about it firsthand.

Stone, R. (1975). [*Because a Little Bug Went Ka-choo*](#). Frith, M. (Illus.). New York, NY: Random House Books for Young Readers

Ages 5-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: A little insect sneezes and it sets off a chain of events.

Stump Clark, J. (2011). [*Miss Golden-Silk Unties a Tangle*](#). Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Ages: Entertaining

Synopsis: A tangled web is blocking Miss Golden-Silk's door, so she can't see friends and they can't come visit her. So she sets out to solve the problem.

Sushiela. (1990). [*The Ant and the Grasshopper: A Love story*](#). Hollywood, CA: Running Water Press.

Ages 10 and up; Entertaining

Synopsis: Ant and Grasshopper fall in love and get married. They find that they complement each other in this extended version of the old Aesop fable.

Swope, S. (2000). [*Gotta Go! Gotta Go!*](#) Riddle, S. (Illus.). New York, NY: Farrar, Straus & Giroux (BYR)

Ages: 3-6; Entertaining

Synopsis: A bug is compelled to go to Mexico. She doesn't realize she's migrating, she just knows she must get there!

Tadych-Grabinski, J. (2011). [*Jeremiah the Curious Cricket*](#). Frederick, MD: PublishAmerica, Inc.

Ages: Entertaining

Synopsis: Kentucky cricket Jeremiah meets a New York cricket and is interested to hear about life in the Big Apple. He decides to set out in pursuit of the city to see it for himself.

Talley, L. (1996). [*Bea's Own Good*](#). Chase, A. (Illus.). Shawnee Mission, KS: Witcher Productions.

Ages 5-9

Synopsis: Beatrice the bee does very well in her hive, as long as she follows the rules. But when she doesn't, it can be disastrous!

Taylor, H. P. (1995). [*Coyote and the Laughing Butterflies*](#). New York, NY: Simon and Schuster Children's Publishing.

Ages: 3-7; Entertaining

Synopsis: Coyote thinks he is so smart, until he is outwitted by some butterflies.

Tobul, G. (2005). [*The Misadventures of Frida*](#). Morell, D. (Illus.). Bloomington, IN: Trafford Publishing.

Synopsis: Frida the spider experiences the everyday trials of rebuilding her web, catching food, and avoiding predators.

Trimble, P. & Moran, A. (2000). [*Lost!*](#) Moreton, D. (Illus.). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages: 5-7; Entertaining

Synopsis: Gil is lost, but can he find his way home with a little sleuthing?

Troehler, D. (2008). [*Chipo's Gift*](#). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Ages 6-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: A South African worm follows her dreams and goes on adventures.

Turnbull, K. (2009). [*Because Everyone Needs a Friend*](#). Houston, TX: Eloquent Books.

Synopsis: Henry the butterfly desperately wants friends, but nothing is working. Then he meets Hannah, and he discovers a kindred spirit.

Tyson, L.A. (2003). [*An Interview with Harry the Tarantula*](#). Drescher, H. (Illus.) Independence, KY: CENGAGE Learning.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Reporter Katy Did interviews Harry the Tarantula to learn all about spiders.

Uncle Fez (2002). [*Ants in the Drain*](#). Quast, C. (Illus.). Bloomington, IN: Trafford Publishing.

Ages 9-12

Synopsis: Nick and Sparky go on a quest for food for their hungry colony in the underworld of New York City.

Usatshchow, A. (2009). [*Little Ant, Big Thinker or Where Does the Ocean End?*](#) Junge, A. (Illus.). NorthSouth

Synopsis: A little ant wonders how large the ocean is and where it ends.

Valder, M. (2010). [*Henry the Honeybee*](#). Valder, J. (Illus.). Eloquent Books.

Synopsis: Henry the honeybee helps his hive thrive, but when he decides one day to quit work, what will be the consequences to him and his hive?

Valenzuda, D. (2012). [*The Little Ladybug*](#). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: A ladybug born without spots does everything to fit in, even making some spots herself. But in the end, she realizes that there is nothing wrong with being unique.

Valentine, D. O. (2010). *Olivia, the Adventures of a Firefly*. Frederick, MD: PublishAmerica, Inc.

Synopsis: Olivia the firefly is friends with a little boy named Owen, and enjoys spending time with him and other children. But one day she curiously flies into a jar of honey and only friendship can save the day.

Van Allsburg, C. (1998). *Two Bad Ants*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: Two ants decide to explore a kitchen without the safety of others.

van Kampen, V. (2005). *Marigold's Wings*. New York, NY: Gareth Stevens Learning Library.

Ages 5-8

Synopsis: Marigold is a Monarch caterpillar who dreams of one day joining her fellow Monarchs on their flight to Mexico.

van Kampen, V. & Campbell, J.M. (1997). *Beetle Bedlam*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge Publishing.

Ages: 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: A bark beetle is put on trial for killing trees. But will the witnesses be reliable, and what will be the bark beetle's fate?

Villa, O. (2009). *Wormy, the Hairy Caterpillar, and the Rainbow*. Aguirre, P. (Illus.). Dade City, FL: Soto Publishing Company

Ages: 3-9

Synopsis: Wormy's friends have all become butterflies. When will it be his turn?

Waber, B. (1970). *A Firefly Named Torchy*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages 5-8

Synopsis: Torchy the firefly's light is so bright that it angers or scares away the other animals. But are there advantages to being different?

Wadsworth, G. (2009). *Up, Up and Away!* Wynne, P.J. (Illus.). Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge Publishing.

Ages 4-7

Synopsis: This story chronicles a spider's everyday life: from avoiding predation, eating, spinning silk, and finding a new home of her own.

Ward, N. (2004). *Squash the Spider*. New York, NY: David Fickling Books.

Ages: 5-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Squash likes to make people jump; who will he scare next?

Weidner Zoehfeld, K. (1996). [*Ladybug at Orchard Avenue*](#). Buchs, T. (Illus.). Norwalk, CT: Soundprints.
Ages: 4-7

Synopsis: Experience a ladybug's life...what she eats and how she avoids predators.

Wenzel, K.M. (1999). [*The Fan Tom Spider*](#). Ruskin, FL: WNZ Publications.

Ages: 5-9; Entertaining

Synopsis: Mr. W doesn't like spider webs and he does everything he can to get rid of him. The spider is tolerant, and eventually convinces Mr. W to accept him and be more tolerant too.

Wert, D. L. (1998). [*Caterfly: Mac's Back Struggling to Stay Drug-Free*](#). Shepherdstown, WV: Rocky River Publishers, LLC.

Ages: 7-12

Synopsis: Monarch caterpillar Mac is addicted to drugs. Now he faces a long road to recovery.

Wert, D. L., Wheeler, P. (ed.), Wilson, C. W. (ed.), & Wilson, M. (ed.). (1998). [*Eglin Long-Horn of Nightshade County*](#). Shepherdstown, WV: Rocky River Publishers, LLC.

Ages: 7-12

Synopsis: When Eglin visits a tobacco field, he hears from his ladybug friend about the problems associated with using tobacco.

Wheeler, K. & Sharp, D. (2000). [*Tunnel 2000: A Tale in Which Edgar Finds Joy in Living*](#). Grand Rapids, MI: Instructional Fair.

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: Edgar the earthworm hates digging in the dirt. But his friend Esther shows him the importance of hard work.

Willard, G. (2009). [*Amy Firefly*](#). Houston, TX: Eloquent Books.

Ages: Educational

Synopsis: Amy Firefly likes to play with her friends, but one day she is approached by a toad, who wants help finding his pet. Amy is not quite sure what to do, but is warned that it's not wise to talk to strangers.

Williams, G. (2011). [*Crazy Cleo the Caterpillar*](#). Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

Synopsis: Is Cleo crazy for wanting to fly?

Williams, S. (2002). [*Imani's Music*](#). Daly, J. (Illus.). New York, NY: Atheneum.

Ages 6-9; Entertaining

Synopsis: Imani is a special grasshopper who can produce beautiful music when the rest of the world cannot. Asking the ancestors to give the world music, they respond, only for Imani to be swept away from his home with only music to help him.

Wilson, A. (2008). [*The Circus Act*](#). Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Ages: Entertaining

Synopsis: Lilly the ladybug and her friends must compete against Swebster the spider in a circus act.

Worthfields, M. (2004). [*Willy the Blue-Speckled Worm*](#). Frederick, MD: PublishAmerica, Inc.

Ages 9-12

Synopsis: A noble worm family gives birth to Willy, a blue-speckled worm, and gives him up for adoption to more “common” worms. He has many adventures and discovers that being different isn’t a bad thing.

Would, N (2006). [*Scarab’s secret*](#). Balit, C. (Illus.). New York, NY: Walker & Company.

Ages 4-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Khepri the scarab beetle becomes friends with the Pharaoh of Egypt. When Khepri discovers a plot against the Pharaoh, he must find a way to warn his friend.

Yeager, J. (2008). [*Tula in a Tangle*](#). North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Ages 6-8; Entertaining

Synopsis: Tula the spider goes on a quest to find her family and along the way meets many different characters, including a little girl.

Yorkinks, A (2005). [*Happy Bees*](#). Armstrong-Ellis, C. (Illus.). New York, NY: Abrams.

Ages: Up to 6; Entertaining

Synopsis: A bear tries to get the honey from bees while they happily invade picnics and other events in the neighborhood.

Ziefert, H. (2010). [*Butterfly Birthday*](#). Jones, M. (Illus.). Maplewood, NJ: Blue Apple Books.

Ages: 3-7; Entertaining

Synopsis: Insects greet each other and have a party to celebrate the coming of spring.

Children/Young Adult Book Series

Titles listed in this section include books that belong to a series, either 2 or more books with the same characters by the same author, or a set of books by different authors that follow a similar theme or feature the same characters. A bibliographical example is given for one book in each series, followed by a list of other titles in the series (if applicable or if the other books within the series are entomology related).

Like the adult and young adult novels listed in this document, the majority of these series are for Entertainment (whereas many stand- alone children’s books are educational even if they are also entertaining) If a series book is deemed to have an educational focus, this is noted.

Arnold, T. (2012). [*Fly Guy Complete Collection Series Set Books 1-11*](#). New York, NY: Scholastic, Inc.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: A collection of books about Fly Guy, a smart fly, his friend Buzz (a boy!) and all the adventures the two of them have.

Banks, L.R. (2012). *Harry the Poisonous Centipede*. New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages: 8-12

Synopsis: Join Harry in his adventures in the strange and scary world of the Hoo-Mins.

Note: Other titles in this series: [*Harry the Poisonous Centipede's Big Adventure*](#) and [*Harry the Poisonous Centipede Goes to Sea*](#).

Baxley Jr. R. (2010). *The Monarchy Prey for Mantus*. The Greenmyn Moons In the Wormhole Pocket Series. Raleigh, NC: Lulu Enterprises, Inc.

Synopsis: Alien entomologist Mantus goes exploring the universe for insect specimens, but finds more than he bargained for.

Bell, R. (2005). *A Regular Bug*. Spring Hill, FL: Bouncing Ball Books, Inc.

Ages: Up to 12 years.

Synopsis: Jacob the Bug becomes "Sharp-Eye" and must save Bugville from an ant colony.

Berry, J. G. & Gardner, S. (2010). *Curse of the Bizarro Beetle #2*. Splurch Academy. New York, NY: Grosset & Dunlap.

Ages: 8 and up

Synopsis: Cody feels relieved when his headmaster leaves his school, but there seems to be darker forces still at work.

Biedrzycki, D. (2008). *Ace Lacewing, Bug Detective*. Waterton, MA: Charlesbridge Publishing.

Ages: 6 and up

Synopsis: Ace Lacewing is on the case! Queenie Bee and Royal Jelly are missing and he'll need some help from friends and witnesses to find them.

Note: Other titles in this series: [*The Big Swat*](#), and [*Bad Bugs are My Business*](#).

Boniface, W. & Harris, J. (ill.). (1997). *Mystery in Bugtown*. Eyeball Animation. Kansas City, MO: Andrews McMeel Publishing.

Ages: 2-7

Synopsis: Bugtown residents are bug-eyed! Inspector Cricket investigates the attempted murder of Charlie Roach.

Coffin, M.T. (1995). *My Teacher's a Bug*. Spinetinglers. New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages: 9 and up

Synopsis: Ryan is on medication that allows him to see his teacher's true colors...they are bugs in disguise and plan to take over the town!

Cosgrove, S. (1989). *Bugg Bk June Bugg*. Price Stern Sloane.

Synopsis: A beautiful bug learns that looks will fade but friends will not.

Note: There are more than 10 other books in this series. Some titles include: [Bugg Bk Vee-Dubb](#), [Bugg Bk Shoe-fly Flu](#), [Bugg Bk Tik Tok](#), and [Bugg Bk Jitterbug](#). Amazon.com can be searched for others in the collection.

Cushman, D. (2001). [Inspector Hopper](#). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages: 4 and up

Synopsis: Join Inspector Hopper, an insect detective, and his sidekick McBugg, on a mystery!

Note: Other titles in the series: [Inspector Hopper's Mystery Year](#)

Famand, D. G. (2010). [Isabella Plays with the Bees](#). Isabella the Flying Flower Series. Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing & Enterprises, Inc.

Synopsis: Isabella the sunflower wants to learn how to fly with her bee friends.

Gershon, D. & Robinson, D. (1998). [Hangin' with the Hombeez: Beez in Toyland](#). New York, NY: Noware Books.

Ages: 5-11

Synopsis: B Cool and his Hombeez friends must help make toys to save Christmas!

Note: Other titles in the series: [The Spelling Bee](#), [Extra Large](#), [Goldstinger](#), and [Slam Dunk](#)

Greenburg, J.C. & Palen, D. (ill.) (2009). [In the Kitchen](#). Andrew Lost series. St. Louis, MO: Turtleback

Ages: 8-11

Synopsis: Andrew, his cousin Judy, and robot Tudd have shrunk in size and everyday things become big adventures! In this story, the group is confronted with large cockroaches and pesky flies!

Hass, E.A. (1982) [Incognito Mosquito: Private Insective](#). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages: 7-10

Synopsis: Private eye Incognito Mosquito is interviewed by a reporter about his adventures with the likes of Mickey Mantis, F. Flea Bailey, and the Warden of Sting Sting Prison

Note: Other titles in this series: [Incognito Mosquito Takes to the Air](#), [Incognito Mosquito Makes History](#), and [Incognito Mosquito Flies Again](#).

Holub, J. (2007). [Big Heart. A Valentine's Tale](#). Terry, W. (Illus.). New York, NY: Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books

Ages 3-5

Synopsis: The Ant Hill kids are in their classroom working on a Valentine's Day card!

Note: Other title in the series: [Spring Is Here!: A Story about Seeds](#)

Keene, C. & Pamintuen, M. (2010). [Buggy Breakout](#). Nancy Drew and the Clue Crew. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books.

Ages: 6 and up

Synopsis: Nancy Drew and her Clue Crew must seek out the Bug Club's prized insect.

Kirk, D. (1994). [*Miss Spider's Tea Party*](#). Miss Spider. New York, NY: Scholastic Inc.

Ages: 4 and up

Synopsis: Miss Spider wants to throw a tea party, but other insects are afraid she'll serve *them* for tea!

Note: There are over 10 books within the Miss Spider series. A few other titles include: [*The Listening Walk*](#), [*Little Miss Spider: A Christmas Wish*](#), [*Bedtime Story*](#), and [*Miss Spider's Wedding*](#).

Lasky, K. (2012). [*The Deadlies: Spiders on the Case*](#). New York, NY: Scholastic, Inc.

Ages: 7-10

Synopsis: The Deadlies are toxic, but these spiders are really friendly just want to find a home where they aren't in danger and can live in peace. Now they've taken residence in the Boston Library.

Note: Other title in this series: [*Felix Takes the Stage*](#)

Neu, K. (2010). [*Case 142: A Bee to Remember: A Ben the Bee Mystery*](#). Ben the Bee Mysteries. North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform

Synopsis: Junior Bee Detective Ben and his pal Scooter investigate the theft of a starlet's missing necklace.

Note: Other titles in this series: [*Case 163 - Captain Blackbee and the Hunt for Stinger Cave: A Ben the Bee Mystery*](#)

Nylund, E. (2011). [*The Resistors #1: The Resistors*](#). The Resistors. New York, NY: Random House Books for Young Readers

Ages: 9 and up

Synopsis: Ethan Black is told that he is under mind control by aliens, and must choose if he wants to resist the lie and flight against the aliens and their giant robot insects.

Note: Other title in this series: [*The Resistors 2: Sterling Squadron*](#)

Osborne, M.P. (2006). [*The Mysteries of Spider Kane*](#). Spider Kane Mysteries. New York, NY: Random House Books for Young Readers

Ages: 9 and up

Synopsis: Two mysteries in one about Spider Kane.

Paris, J.W. (2012). [*Archie the Friendly Spider 4 Book Bundle: Bedtime Stories*](#). Gorak, A. (Illus.). Children's Fantasy 4-8. Deanburn Publications

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: Archie is a Scottish spider who is not-scary and just wants to make friends with everyone!

Philpot, G. (1994). [*Amazing Anthony Ant*](#). New York, NY: Random House Books for Young Readers

Ages: 5-8

Synopsis: An activity book full of mazes and discovery as Anthony Ant goes through his day.

Note: Other titles in the series: [Find Anthony Ant](#), [Anthony Ant's Treasure Hunt](#), and [Anthony Ant's Creepy Crawly Party](#).

Prince, J. (2007). [I Saw an Ant in the Parking Lot](#). Pamintuan, M. (Illus.). New York, NY: Sterling.

Ages: 2-5

Synopsis: Ant is in a parking lot...with lots of dangers!

Note: Other title in this series: [I Saw an Ant on the Railroad Track](#)

Rand, J. (2003). [Iron Insects Invade Indiana](#). American Chillers #9. Logan, IA: Perfection Learning.

Ages: 9-12

Synopsis: Mandy and Travis must escape metal insects!

Randall, R. (2000). [Along Came a Spider](#). Heebie Jeebies series. Nashville, TN: B & H Publishing Group.

Ages: 9 and up

Synopsis: Jaime and her brother try to determine what to do when they find an abandoned treehouse full of spiders.

Reese, B. (1981). [Scary Larry, the Very Very Hairy Tarantula](#). Danbury, CT: Children's Press.

Ages: 4-7

Synopsis: A grasshopper father tries to protect his friends and family from a tarantula.

Note: Other titles in the series: [Scary Larry Meets Big Willie](#)

Reynolds, A. (2009). [Joey Fly Private Eye in Creepy Crawly Crime](#). Numberman, N. (Illus.). New York, NY: Henry Holt & Company Books For Young Readers.

Ages: 7 and up

Synopsis: Joey is working on a case to find a stolen diamond pencil box for his client, but solving the case isn't easy when witnesses and assistants keep bumbling things up!

Note: Other title in this series: [Big Hairy Drama](#)

Reynolds, A. (2007). [Tiger Moth and the Dung Beetle Bandits](#). Lervold, E. (Illus.). Graphic Sparks Graphic Novels. Minneapolis, MN: Stone Arch Books

Ages: 7 and up

Synopsis: Dung beetles are missing from a ranch. Could the culprit be Stinky McCree?

Note: There are many other titles in this series. Some examples include: [Tiger Moth and the Dragon Flight Contest](#), [Insect Ninja](#), and [Tiger Moth: Adventures of an Insect Ninja](#)

Rouss, S.A. (2002). [Sammy Spiders First Trip to Israel: A Book About the Five Senses](#). Kahn, K.J. (Illus.). Kar-Ben Pub.

Ages: 6 and up; Educational

Synopsis: Sammy the Spider travels with the Shapiros and, using his senses, explores Israel.

Note: This series about Jewish Life includes over 10 titles, including [Sammy Spider First Day of School](#), and [Sammy Spider's First Sukkot](#). Amazon.com can be searched for others in the collection.

Saxon, V., & Auerbach, A. (1998). [*A Bug's Life 1-12*](#). Phillipson, A. & Oh, J. (Illus.). Houston, TX: Advance Publishing, Inc.

Synopsis: Join Flik the ant and his friends in a variety of adventures. 12 book set.

Schade, S. (1994). [*Snug House, Bug House*](#). Bright and Early Books. New York, NY: Random House Books for Young Readers.

Ages 6-8

Synopsis: When a group of insects finds a tennis ball, they work to make it their new home.

Note: Other title in this series: [*Snow Bugs*](#)

Selden, G. (1960). [*The Cricket in Times Square*](#). Williams, G. (Illus.). Chester Cricket Series. St. Louis, MO: Turtleback Books.

Ages: 8-11

Synopsis: Tucker the mouse and Harry the cat meet Chester, a cricket who has hitchhiked along in a picnic basket and now finds himself in the middle of New York City. The three become friends and have many adventures in this classic story.

Note: There are over 10 titles in the Chester Series. Some titles include [*Chester Crickets' Pigeon Ride*](#), [*Harry Cat and Tucker Mouse: Tucker's Beetle Band*](#), and [*Chester Cricket's New Home*](#). Amazon.com can be searched for others in the collection

Shipton, P. (2003). [*Bug Muldoon, Garden of Fear*](#). Smith, E. (Illus.). Bug Muldoon series. New York, NY: Puffin.

Ages: 8 and up

Synopsis: In this hard boiled style mystery, Bug Muldoon must find some missing earwigs.

Note: Other in the series: [*Bug Muldoon and the Killer in the Rain*](#),

Smith, T. R. (2006). [*The Work Bees Go On Strike*](#). Buck Wilder Adventures. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge Publishing, Inc.

Ages: 4-8

Synopsis: What happens when worker bees won't make honey?

Note: Other title in this series: [*The Ants Dig to China*](#).

Sommer, C. & James, K. (ill.) (1997). [*No Longer a Dilly Dally*](#). James, K. (Illus.). Another Sommer-Time Story. Houston, TX: Advance Publishing, Inc.

Ages: 5-9; Educational

Synopsis: The Dilly Dally family likes to play more than work, so they don't prepare for winter the way they should and learn a valuable lesson.

Note: Other titles in this series: [*The Ugly Caterpillar*](#), [*It's Not Fair!*](#)

Sonenklar, C. (1998). [*Bug Boy!*](#) Lewin, B. (Illus.). New York, NY: Henry Holt & Company Books For Young Readers.

Ages: 8-12

Synopsis: Charlie receives a Bug-a-View in the mail and had trouble believing it can give him a bug's eye view of the world until he tries it.

Note: Other title in the series: [Bug Girl](#)

Speck, K. (2007). [Maybelle in the Soup](#). De Tagyos, P. (Illus.). New York, NY: Henry Holt and Co.

Ages: 7 and up

Synopsis: Maybelle the cockroach decides to venture from under the refrigerator...during Mr. and Mrs. Peabody's dinner party!

Note: Other titles in this series: [Maybelle and the Haunted Cupcake](#), and [Maybelle Goes to Tea](#).

Stanek, R. (2010). [The Bugville Critters Have a Surprise Party](#). The Bugville Critters, Lass Ladybug's Adventures Series. East Olympia, WA: Reagent Press Books for Young Readers

Synopsis: Insects have a surprise party!

Note: There are over 20 books within the Bugville Critters series by R. Stanek, some that even include a subseries! Listed here are a few of the other titles: [Remember Their Manners](#), [Go to School](#), [Go on Vacation](#), [Have a Sleepover](#), [Start Summer Vacation](#), [Explore the Solar System](#). You can search for the entire listing on Amazon.com.

Stine, R.L. (1996). [The Bugman Lives!](#) Ghosts of Fear Street. New York, NY: Simon Pulse.

Ages: 8-12

Synopsis: Janet finds insects attacking her from all directions when she disturbs the Bugman.

Thomas, P. (1995). [Winning](#). The Adventures of Billy Bee. Nashua, NH: Billy Bee Productions.

Ages: 5-9; Educational

Synopsis: Billy Bee learns all about winning, losing, and playing the game.

Note: Other title in the series: [Colors of Love](#).

Wise, R. (2004). [Belinda Bee's Busy Year](#). Belinda Bee Series. Bloomington, IN: Trafford.

Ages 6-8; Educational

Synopsis: Belinda bee teaches about all the steps in running a successful hive.

Note: Other title in this series: [Belinda the Bee Swarms Away](#)

Miscellaneous Other Works

Video Games

The following list includes selected video games that can be primarily found on CD. They are listed as either educational (teaching an entomological concept) or entertaining (shoot em' ups, etc.). Ages are listed by video game ratings: Everyone, Teen, Mature.

Atari. (2011) [*Centipede: Infestation*](#) [Nintendo Wii]. Beverly, MA: Atari.

Ages: Everyone 10+; Entertaining

Synopsis: In this reimagining of the classic Atari game, Max the insect slayer must battle a myriad of beasties including centipedes, spiders, beetles, and caterpillars to protect the girl who can bring life back to a post-apocalyptic world.

D3 Publisher. (2011). [*Earth Defense Force: Insect Armageddon*](#) [Playstation and Xbox]. Los Angeles, CA: D3 Publisher.

Ages: Teen; Entertaining

Synopsis: In this third person shooter, the player destroys hoards of giant insects.

Gamehouse. (2005). [*Tumblebugs*](#) [PC Game]. Seattle, WA: Gamehouse.

Ages: Everyone; Entertaining

Synopsis: As Tumble, save your beetle friends from the evil Black Bug Empire by matching groups of similarly colored bugs.

Got Game Entertainment. (2004). [*Bad Mojo Redux*](#) [PC and Mac game]. Weston, CT: Got Game Entertainment.

Ages: Teen; Entertaining

Synopsis: In this revamped version of the 1996 original, Roger Samms is transformed into a cockroach by an insect shaped locket that was given to him by his deceased mother. Now he must navigate through his enemy Eddie's bar, facing rats, garbage disposals, cats and other dangers until he can discover the truth behind the locket and his meet his fate.

THQ, Inc. (1998). [*A Bug's Life*](#) [Playstation] Agoura Hills, CA: THQ, Inc.

Ages: Everyone; Entertaining

Synopsis: Flik the ant tries to save his colony from grasshoppers led by the evil Hopper.

University of Nebraska—Lincoln Extension. (2010). [*Pest Private Eye*](#). [PC and Mac game]. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska—Lincoln Educational Media.

Ages: Everyone; Educational

Synopsis: In this first person role-playing game, host Penny Poe first introduces the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) concept. Users portray Pest Private Eye, a detective that helps solve school pest problems by working with staff and using IPM.

Note: There is an online version of this game that can be accessed [here](#).

Cartoons/Comic strips

Many published cartoons or comic strips have featured insects or entomologists over the years. Two of the better known and popular strips that have frequently used insects as subjects include Gary Larson's *The Far Side* and Mark Parisi's *Off the Mark*. Individual cartoons will not be listed here, but you can find a comprehensive list at the following locations:

Parisi, M. *Off the Mark*. <http://www.offthemark.com/cartoons/insects/> (accessed Aug 8, 2012)

Shockley, F.W., 2012. Diversity, Phenology, and Natural History of Insects and Other Arthropods in *The Far Side* by Gary Larson. *American Entomologist*, 58: 74-77.

References: Databases

I used all of the following Databases/Websites extensively during the course of my research. I am listing their general URL's here as I did many searches within them rather than for one particular citation.

Amazon.com. <http://amazon.com>

Barnes and Noble. <http://barnesandnoble.com>

Better World Books. <http://www.betterworldbooks.com/>

Books In Print. <http://0-www.booksinprint.com.library.unl.edu/HomePage.aspx>

Internet Movie Database. <http://imdb.com>

References: Specific

The following references were used in the research for this bibliography/filmography. Some of them are also good resources for those wishing to view, rent, or purchase specific titles.

12 Children's Books About Insects and Other Wee Critters (August 30, 2011). In *Delightful Children's Books*. Retrieved November 7, 2012, from <http://delightfulchildrensbooks.com/2011/08/30/insects/>

Category: Films about Insects. In *Wikipedia*. Retrieved November 7, 2012, from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Films_about_insects.

Cockroaches in Popular Culture. In *Wikipedia*. Retrieved November 7, 2012, from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cockroaches_in_popular_culture.

Friday 5: Insect-Themed TV Show Episodes. (June 17, 2011). In *The Dragonfly Woman*. Retrieved November 12, 2012, from <http://thedragonflywoman.com/2011/06/17/insect-themed-tv/>

Greatest Movies of All Time With Giant Bugs. In *movie guide*. Retrieved November 7, 2012, from <http://movies.amctv.com/movie-guide/greatest-movies-of-all-time-with-giant-insects.php>.

Hadley, D. (n.d.). 20 Insect Horror Movies You Can Stream on Netflix. In *About.com*. Retrieved November 7, 2012, from <http://insects.about.com/od/InsectMovies/tp/20-Insect-Horror-Movies-You-Can-Stream-On-Netflix.htm>

Hurst, C. & Otis, R. (n.d.) Insects and Spiders: A Literature Based Classroom Unit. In Carol Hurst's Children's Literature Site. Retrieved November 7, 2012, from <http://www.carolhurst.com/subjects/insectsspiders.html>.

Knight, R. (July 5, 2011). Buggin' Out: The 10 Best Insect Characters in Video Game. In *Complex Gaming*. Retrieved November 7, 2012, from <http://www.complex.com/video-games/2011/07/10-best-video-game-insects/>.

Lealos, S. (n.d.). Creepy Crawly Cinema: Great Movies about Insects. In *Screen Junkies*. Retrieved November 7, 2012, from <http://www.screenjunkies.com/movies/movie-lists/creepy-crawly-cinema-great-movies-about-insects/>.

Simpson, J. (n.d.) Insect Fiction! Great Books Where an Insect is the Main Character. In *Listmania at Amazon.com*. Retrieved November 7, 2012, from <http://www.amazon.com/Insect-Fiction-Great-Books-Character/lm/R2ER4MQQO9FDXX>.

StewWriter. (November 7, 2007). Top 10 Best Bug Movies. In *Listverse*. Retrieved November 7, 2012 from <http://listverse.com/2007/11/09/top-10-best-bug-movies/>.

The Top Ten List of the Absolute Best Giant Bug Movies. In *Hubpages*. Retrieved November 7, 2012, from <http://quotations.hubpages.com/hub/The-Top-Ten-List-of-the-Absolute-Best-Giant-Bug-Movies>.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the following people for their guidance and assistance with this project.

Stephen Danielson, Entomology Department Professor

Leslie Delserone, UNL Library Entomology Liaison

Tom Weissling, Entomology Department Distance Ed Coordinator

Final Comments:

It is my hope that this bibliography/filmography will be of interest and benefit to other entomologists as well as the general public. Anyone with a strong desire to see films or read books about insects should find a lot of choice here! In addition, one of the biggest surprises I had during the course of this project was finding how often insects are featured in children's literature. Insect characters make great protagonists for teaching life lessons!

A possible future direction/expansion for this project would be to increase accessibility to others by posting it to the UNL Entomology Departmental or similar website. Then perhaps promotion through ESA, other entomological organizations, and public libraries would increase awareness of its existence. Finally, after the tool is available to a wide audience, it would be useful to collect data from the community by developing a survey that measures its impact.

This project is a snapshot in time. Our popular culture and media is ever changing, and as such, there are many additions/expansions that could be made to this project in the future. These might include extending the range of publication years (pre-1950 and post 2012, once this occurs), titles targeted toward pre-school groups or skills (i.e. counting, alphabetizing, etc.), and foreign titles. A non-fictional list of works about entomology would also be beneficial to both scientists and the public. I would certainly enjoy seeing such publications!