

## Nature 2 U (On-Site or Outreach) – Insects vs Arachnids:

### Nature Exploration

**Topics covered:** Do all spiders spin webs? How does a caterpillar become a butterfly? A thorax, what's that?! This program answers all those questions and many more as students get up close to a live tarantula, and learn what makes insects and arachnids different and alike.

**Ages:** PK – 8<sup>th</sup>

**Purchase Details:** \$6 per student

Programs can be reserved by phone: 901-636-2221  
Tuesday - Friday, sessions by appointment

#### Objectives:

1. Learn about insect and arachnid anatomy.
2. Find out what makes insects and arachnids different.
3. Meet live animals and observe wildlife artifacts.

**Vocabulary:** adjusted for specific grade levels

insect	antenna
arachnid	entomologist
thorax	invertebrate
cocoon	nectar
pedipalps	pupa
spinnerets	larvae
molting	

#### Fun Facts:

- Butterflies can taste with their feet.
- Insects have been around for 350 million years and scientists believe there are between 6 and 10 million insect species.
- Only female mosquitos bite people and animals because they require blood to produce their eggs. Male mosquitos feed on flower nectar.
- There are around 40,000 species of spiders and all of them produce silk, but not all spiders build webs.
- A scientist that studies insects is called an entomologist.

**Web Resources:**

Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency – [www.tn.gov/twra.html](http://www.tn.gov/twra.html)

Tennessee Wildlife Federation – [www.tnwf.org](http://www.tnwf.org)

Exhibit Information at Lichterman Nature Center – [www.memphismuseums.org/lichterman-nature-center/](http://www.memphismuseums.org/lichterman-nature-center/)

Entomological Society of American – <https://www.entsoc.org/resources/grants-educators/entomology-lesson-plans-projects-and-resources>

**Where:** Lichterman Nature Center Amphitheater or classrooms

**When:** Year-round, Tuesday – Friday, sessions by appointment

- **Standards:**
  - **(Grade Level)** PK - 8
- **Tennessee: (Life Science)**
  - LS (1-4), ETS2
- **Mississippi: (Life Science)**
  - L (1-4), E (9-10)
- **Arkansas**
  - LS 1, 2, 3, 4