

Insect Study Merit Badge

Important information about how to prepare for a Merit Badge program at Huntley Meadows Park

These programs are 2-5 hours long. Be sure your scout packs a snack/lunch and water. Merit badges are not designed to be completed in one afternoon. To complete the badge, there is some work the scouts need to do outside of the workshop. We call this pre-work. We suggest this is done prior to the badge program date, but we realize this is not always practical or possible. In these cases, we will, if requested, sign partial cards and accept the assignments after the program. To receive credit for the work, your scout must bring/send back all the work to sign off on the blue card.

Please bring to class:

- Pre-Work
- Blue card
- Pen
- Snack/lunch and a drink
- Appropriate clothing to go outside to observe the weather
- Worksheet (useful but not mandatory) <http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/Insect-study.pdf>

The following is the required Pre-Work.

Requirement #5: Bring a composition book or booklet to record your insect observations and with enough pages for about 20 insect observations.

Requirement #9: Raise an insect through the complete metamorphosis from its larval stage to its adult stage (e.g. raise a butterfly or moth from a caterpillar).

Requirement #10: Do ONE of the following:

- a) Observe an ant colony in a formicarium (ant farm). Find the queen and worker ants. Explain to your counselor the different chambers found within an ant colony.
- b) Study a hive of bees. Remove the combs and find the queen. Estimate the amount of brood, and count the number of queen cells. Explain how to determine the amount of honey in the hive.

Requirement #13: Learn about three career opportunities in insect study. Pick one and learn about the education, training, and experience required for this profession. Discuss this with your counselor, and explain why this profession might interest you.

Thank you,
Huntley Meadows Staff
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