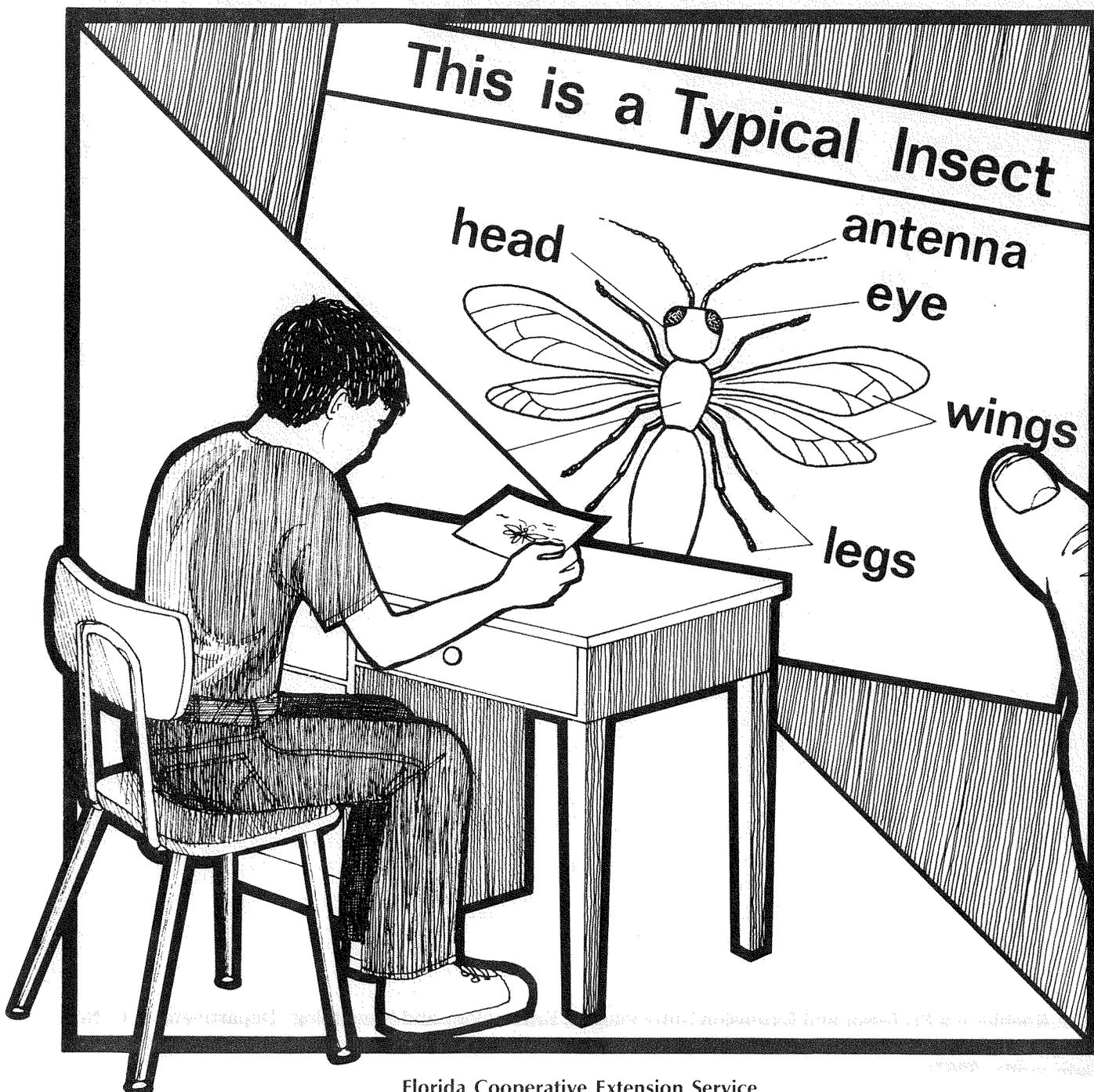


# 4-H ENTOMOLOGY PROJECT

## BEGINNING LEVEL

### Getting Started In Entomology

P. G. Koehler and J. C. Northrop



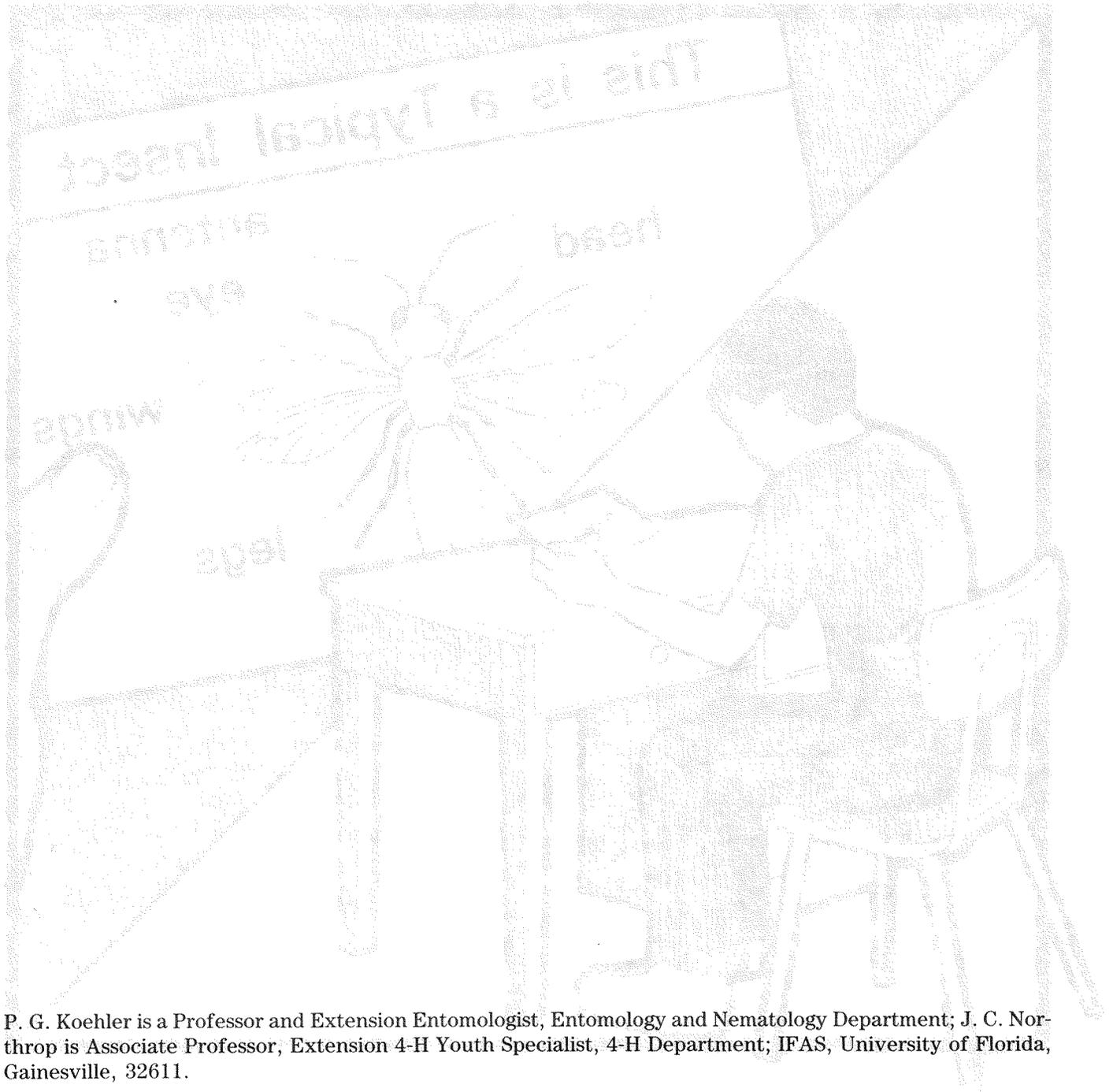
Florida Cooperative Extension Service  
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences  
University of Florida, Gainesville  
John T. Woeste, Dean for Extension

# 4-H ENTOMOLOGICAL PROJECT

## BEGINNING LEVEL

(Getting Started in Entomology)

By P. G. Koehler and J. C. Northrop



P. G. Koehler is a Professor and Extension Entomologist, Entomology and Nematology Department; J. C. Northrop is Associate Professor, Extension 4-H Youth Specialist, 4-H Department; IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, 32611.

# 4-H ENTOMOLOGY PROJECT

## BEGINNING LEVEL

### Getting Started In Entomology

#### BEFORE YOU START

Please complete the following questions before you begin *Getting Started in Entomology*. Answer each question as well as you can, but don't worry if you can only answer a few. This is not a test, and you will not receive a grade for it. When you finish this book, complete the questions at the end. Your leader will help you compare them so you can see how much you have learned.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

1. Make a simple drawing of an insect and label these parts: head, thorax, abdomen, legs, wings, antennae, eyes.  
(Make your drawing on the back of this page)

2. What are the three stages of growth for an insect with gradual metamorphosis?  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. List 10 common insects:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What are the four stages of growth for an insect with complete metamorphosis?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Insects are classified into large groups called: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Bonus:  
The exoskeleton of an insect is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# BEGINNING INSECT — COLLECTING PROJECT

Many 4H'ers are interested in science. Collecting and studying insects is one area of science that can be fun. This project has been designed for you to use whether you live in town or in the country. Do the work as well as you can. You will enjoy collecting insects in your 4-H project.

**Objectives** — By completing this project you will learn:

- The parts of an insect
- The names of some common insects
- The life cycles of some insects
- Where common insects are found
- A simple way to display insects

**Supplies** — To complete this project, you will need:

- Glue
- Scissors
- Poster-board (one layer piece)
- A pen or pencil

## What is an Insect?

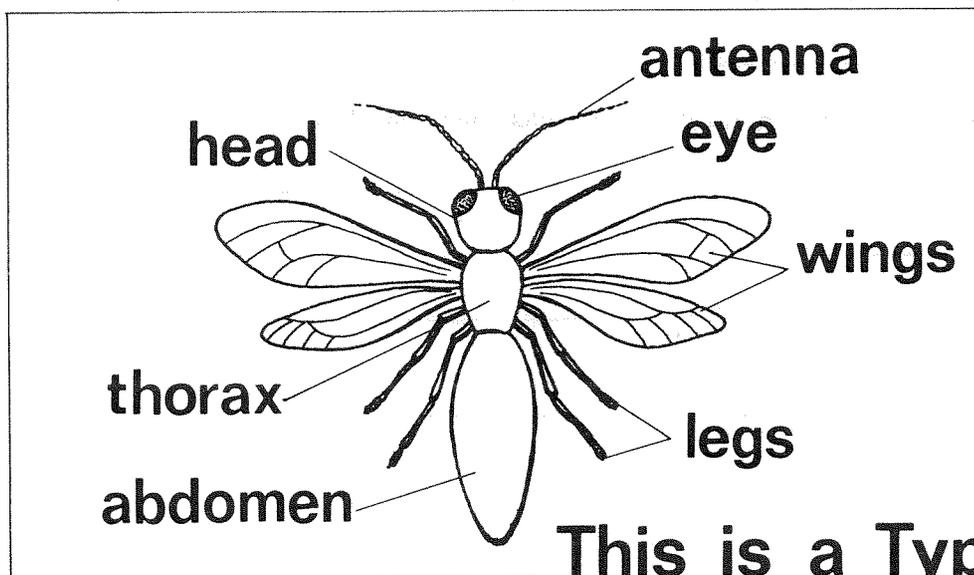
Insects are found just about everywhere. About 80 percent of all animals are insects. The skin of an insect is hardened into a stiff skeleton called the exoskeleton. The body of an insect is divided into 3 parts — the head, thorax and abdomen.

The head of an insect has mouthparts, antennae, and eyes. Mouthparts are used by the insect for feeding. There are many kinds of mouthparts. Insects with chewing mouthparts chew and bite solid food. Grasshoppers, cockroaches, and beetles are examples of insects with chewing mouthparts. Insects with sucking mouthparts puncture tissues and suck fluids. Mosquitoes, true bugs, and horse flies are examples of insects with sucking mouthparts. Other common types of mouthparts are sponging mouthparts (on house flies and flesh flies) and siphoning mouthparts (on butterflies and moths).

Insects have two kinds of eyes. There are two large compound eyes on most insects. Some insects also have simple eyes called ocelli. Insects have one pair of feelers or antennae on the head. Antennae help insects smell and taste.

The thorax is used for moving the insect from place to place. Most insects have wings on the thorax. There may be one or two pairs of wings. Some insects do not have wings at all. The legs of insects are on the thorax also. The legs may be long and muscular for running and jumping, or short and strong for digging.

The insect's abdomen is used for breathing, reproduction, and digestion.

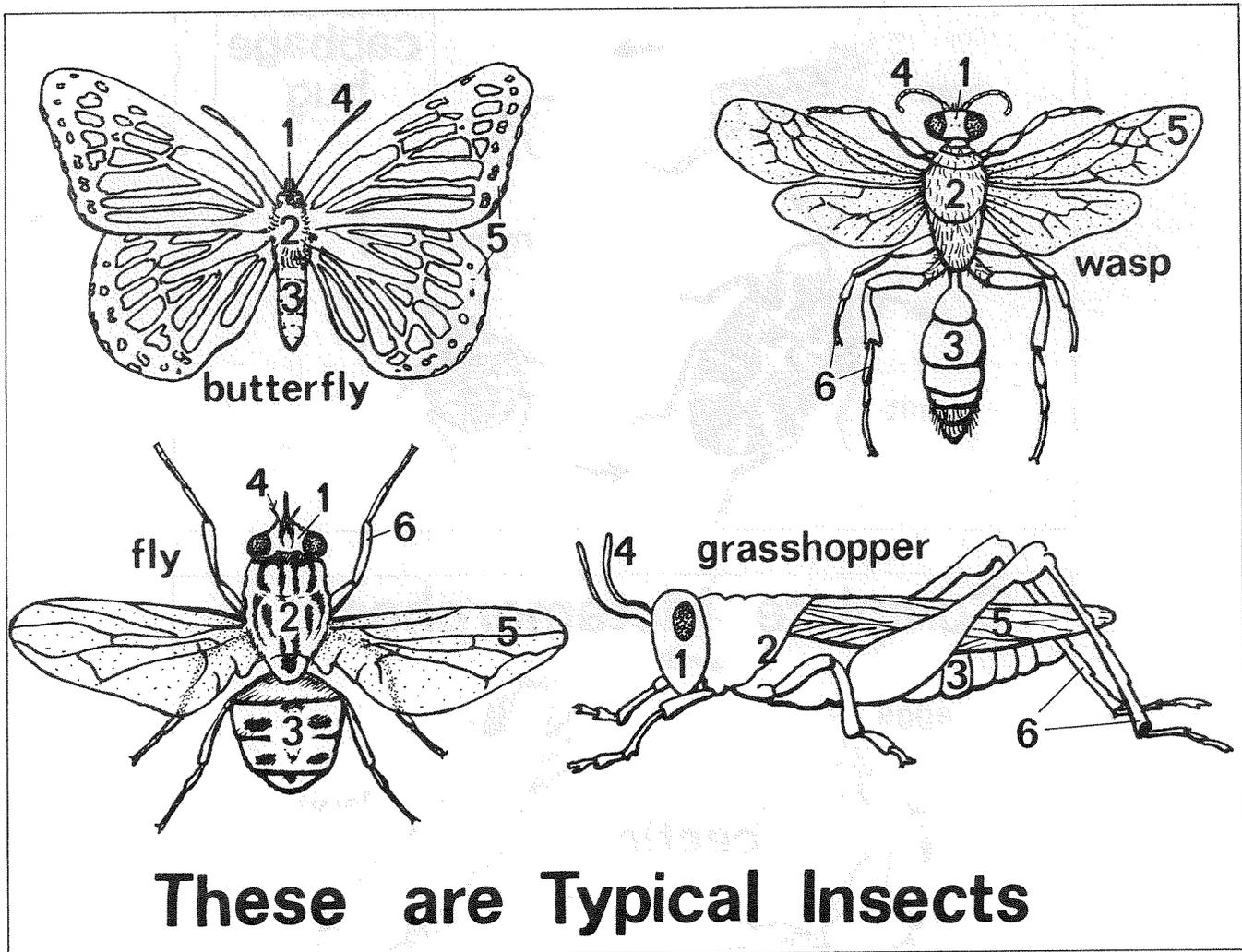


**This is a Typical Insect**

## Fill in the Blanks

Insects can be classified into large groups called "orders." The insects in each order have certain characteristics in common. Can you see what they are? Study the insects drawn in this section. Compare them with each other and with the illustrations. Try to find the parts. Notice how these parts differ in size and shape. These differences are largely a result of "environmental adaptations" which have taken place over millions of years.

# What is an Insect?



1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

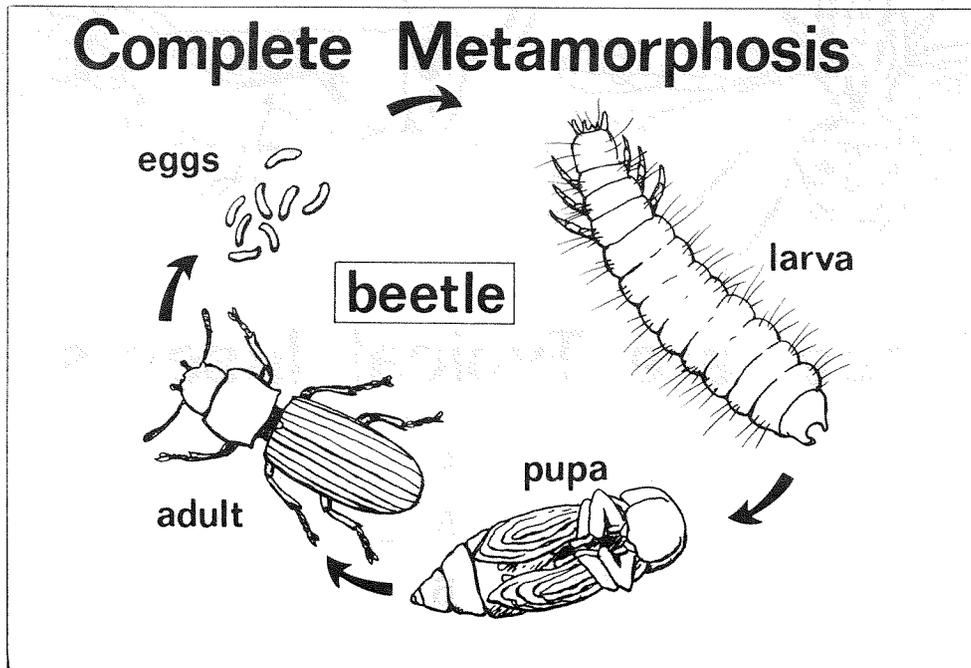
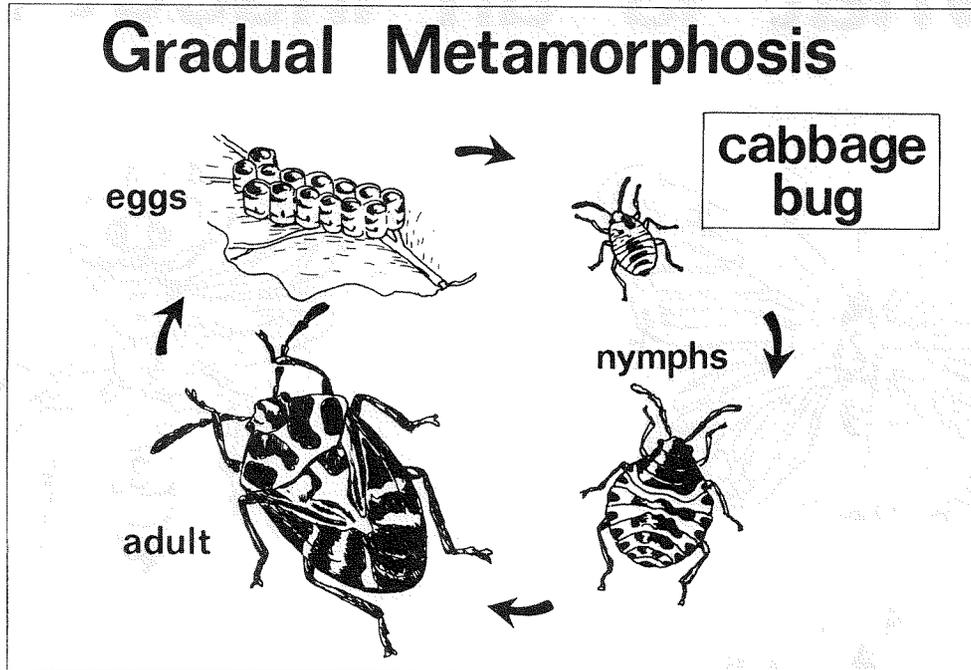
5 \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_

## Insect Growth and Development

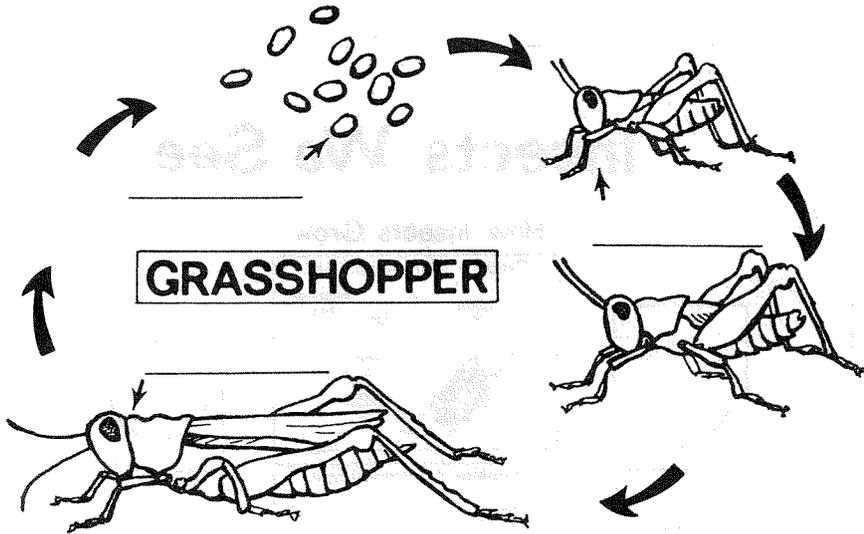
The way insects develop is called metamorphosis. Generally, there are two important kinds of metamorphosis. Gradual metamorphosis has three stages of development: egg, nymph, and adult. Cockroaches, crickets, true bugs, earwigs and grasshoppers are examples of insects with gradual metamorphosis. Complete metamorphosis has four stages of development: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. Beetles, butterflies, moths, wasps, flies, and fleas have complete metamorphosis. Some insects have no metamorphosis; others may have incomplete metamorphosis.

# How Insects Grow

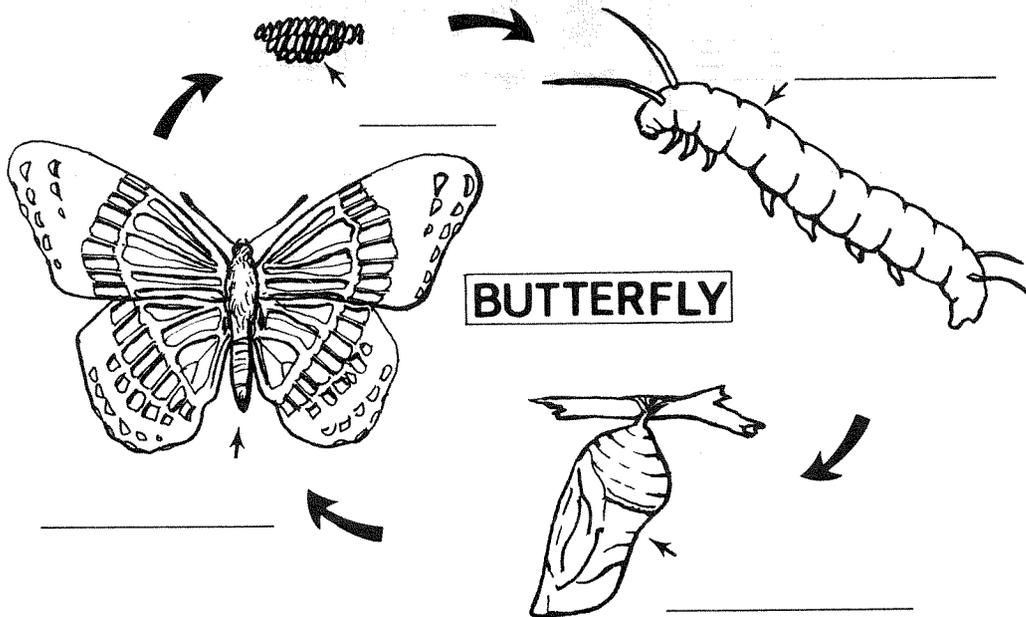


Fill in the Blanks

# Gradual Metamorphosis



# Complete Metamorphosis



# Insect Collection

Collect any 10 insects. For each insect, fill out a card. Glue the insect in the center of the circle on the card. Cut out the name label from the list and glue it to the card above the circle. You do not have to spread the wings of moths and butterflies. Glue them to the cards so they will be pleasing and attractive. You can glue the cards and the heading "INSECTS WE SEE" on a poster board for display.

## Insects We See

### How Insects Grow

**Gradual Metamorphosis**

**Complete Metamorphosis**

**What is an Insect?**

These are Typical Insects

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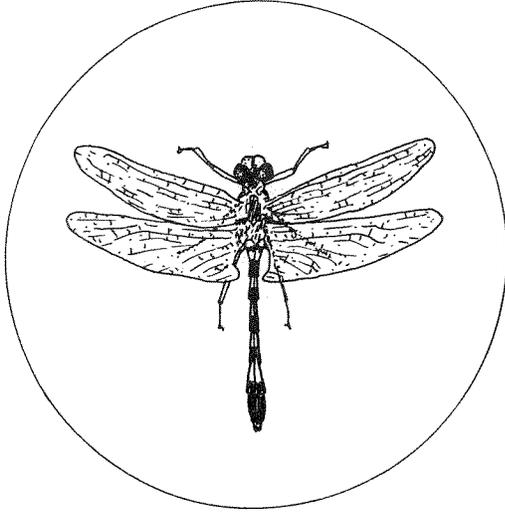
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6

# EXAMPLES

## DRAGONFLY



\_\_\_\_\_  
Common Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Collected

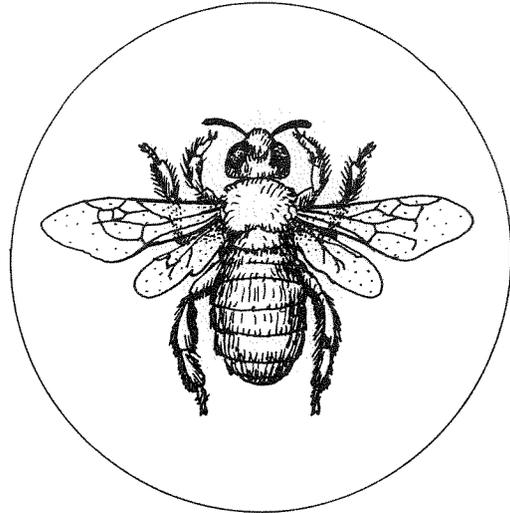
\_\_\_\_\_  
County

What I have learned about this insect:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
My Name

## BEE



\_\_\_\_\_  
Common Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Collected

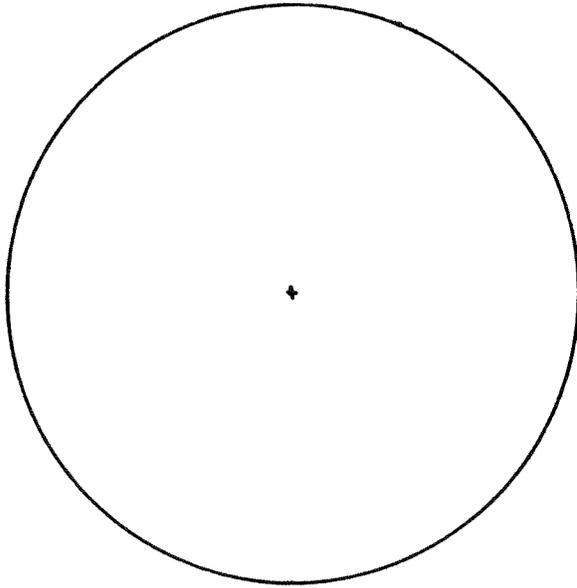
\_\_\_\_\_  
County

What I have learned about this insect:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
My Name

Place name label here.



Common Name

Date Collected

County

What I have learned about this insect:

---

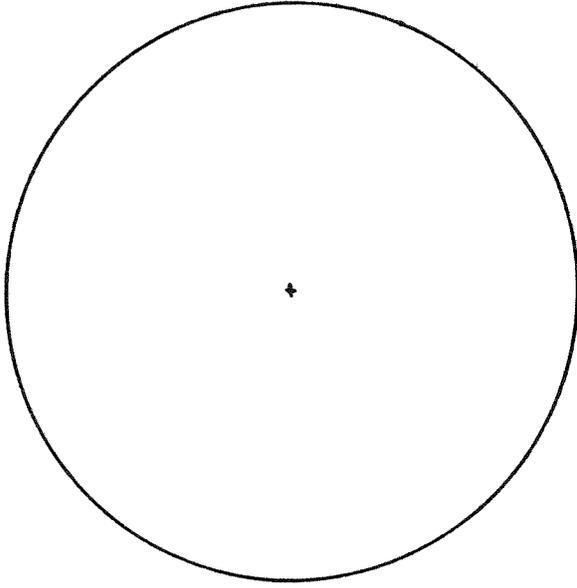
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My Name

Place name label here.



Common Name

Date Collected

County

What I have learned about this insect:

---

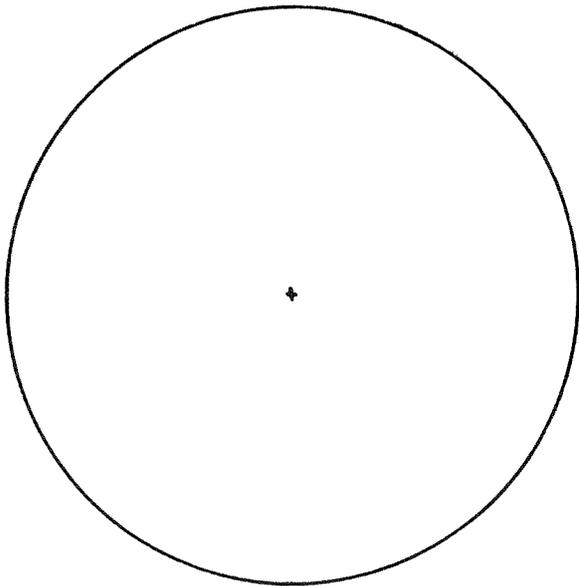
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---

My Name

Place name label here.



Common Name

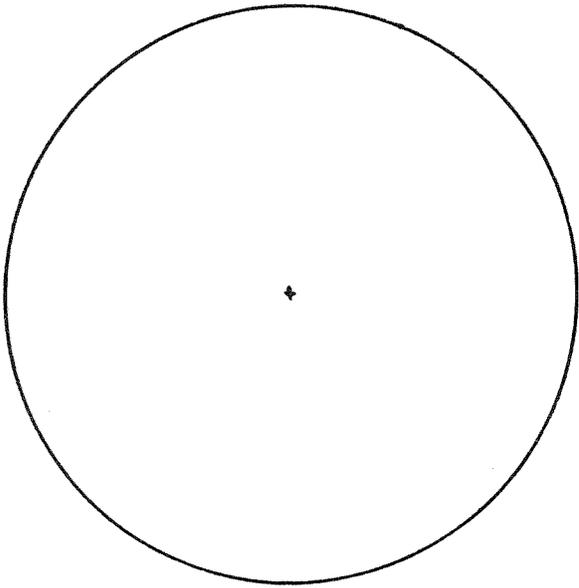
Date Collected

County

What I have learned about this insect:

My Name

Place name label here.



Common Name

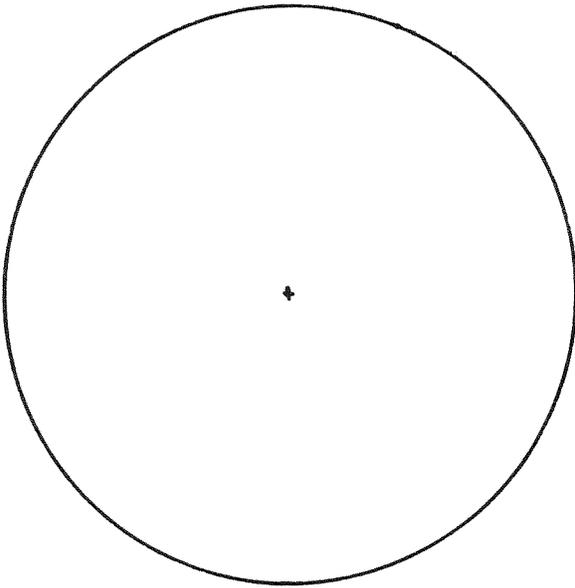
Date Collected

County

What I have learned about this insect:

My Name

Place name label here.



Common Name

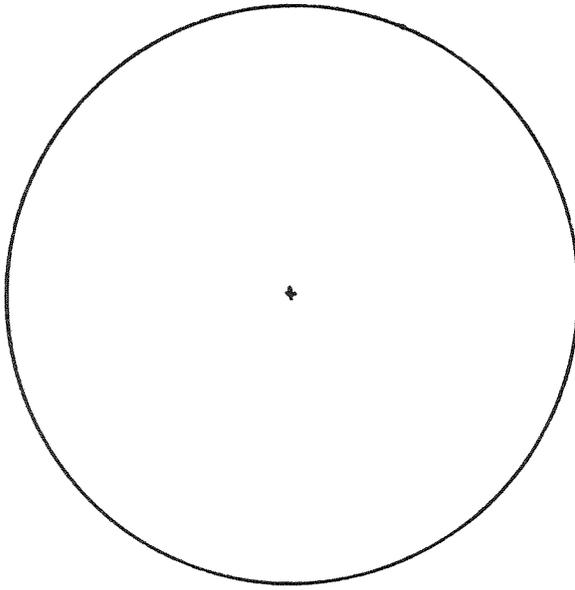
Date Collected

County

What I have learned about this insect:

My Name

Place name label here.



Common Name

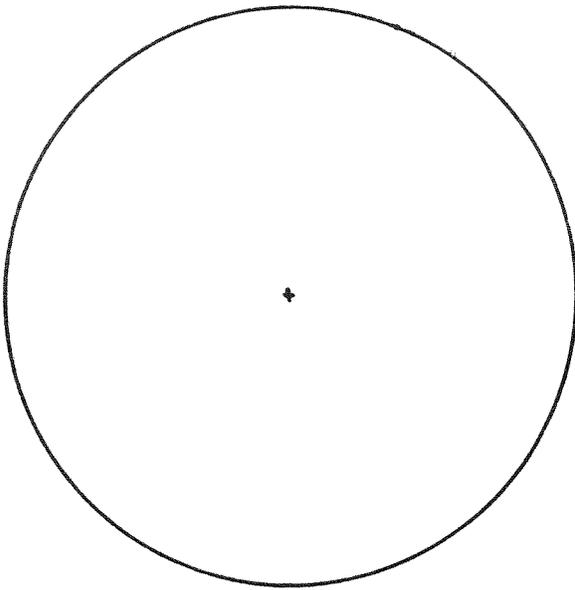
Date Collected

County

What I have learned about this insect:

My Name

Place name label here.



Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

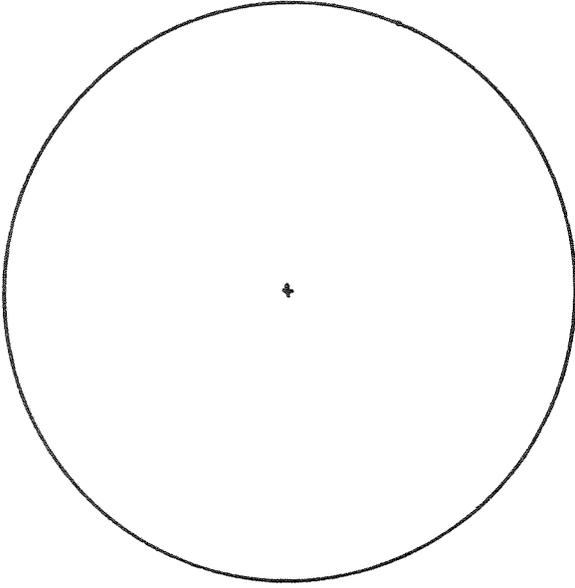
Date Collected \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

What I have learned about this insect:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My Name \_\_\_\_\_

Place name label here.



Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date Collected \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

What I have learned about this insect:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My Name \_\_\_\_\_

# **Insects We See -**

**BUTTERFLY**

**MOTH**

**FLY**

**WASP**

**BEE**

**GRASSHOPPER**

**CRICKET**

**TRUE BUG**

**BEETLE**

**COCKROACH**

**DRAGONFLY**

**ANT**

**TERMITE**

**CICADA**

**LACEWING**

**LEAFHOPPER**

**PREYING MANTIS**

**DAMSELFLY**

# Suggestions for Making a Blue Ribbon Collection

- The following scoring procedure is recommended for The Beginning Insect Collection:

	POINTS
Accuracy of statements telling what was learned about the insect	40
Identification	30
Condition of specimens	30
Total	100

- Use only undamaged insects.
- Collect a variety of insects.
- Write statements that tell something interesting and important about the insects.

## NOW THAT YOU ARE FINISHED

Now that you are finished with this book, please answer the following questions. They are the same questions you answered when you began. You are not going to receive a grade. Your leader can help you compare your answers to see how much you have learned.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

- Make a simple drawing of an insect and label these parts: head, thorax, abdomen, legs, wings, antennae, eyes.  
(Make your drawing on the back of this page)
- What are the three stages of growth for an insect with gradual metamorphosis?

\_\_\_\_\_

- List 10 common insects:
- |       |       |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

- What are the four stages of growth for an insect with complete metamorphosis?
- |       |       |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

5. Insects are classified into large groups called: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Bonus:  
The exoskeleton of an insect is \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## 4-H CLUB RECORD

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF CLUB \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

DATE RECORD STARTED \_\_\_\_\_ COMPLETED \_\_\_\_\_

1. Did you fill in all the blanks for:
- What Is An Insect?** \_\_\_\_\_
- How Insects Grow?** \_\_\_\_\_

2. Did you display your answers in class or at a fair?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How many insects did you collect and glue onto the cards?

\_\_\_\_\_

List their names:


1. This document is 4HENM10 of the Florida 4-H Youth Development Program, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. Reviewed June 2002. Please visit the EDIS website at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>.



2. P.G. Koehler and J.C. Northrop Publication contact: Nancy Johnson, 4-H Publication Specialist  
Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences, Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville 32611.

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