



INSECT WINDOW STICKERS



GRADES 2-4

MATERIALS

- glue and tempera powder paint (or use colored Elmer's glue)
- wax paper
- squeeze bottles
- container and spoon for mixing

KEY WORDS

- insect
- rain forest

STANDARD

- SCI.4.3.3

OBJECTIVE

- Students will invent a bug that might live in a tropical rain forest.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- It has been estimated that there may be as many as 30 million insect species in the world's tropical rain forests, with only a fraction of those described scientifically and named.
- Many insects live on the forest floor, such as ants, termites and centipedes.
- Some army ants travel in columns of approximately twenty million, eating scorpions, millipedes, katydids, cockroaches and other creatures.
- Mosquitos are numerous in the rain forest and can be carriers of malaria or yellow fever.
- Other rain forest insects rely on dramatic camouflage to hide from predators. The Malaysian giant walking stick resembles a green twig and may grow to thirteen inches in length. Other insects may look like green leaves, or even flowers.

PROCEDURE

- Mix the tempera pain with the glue in a small container and pour into squeeze bottles. (Omit this step if you are using colored Elmer's glue.)
- Give each child a piece of wax paper and glue bottles. Tell them to use the glue to draw an insect on their paper.
- Let the glue insects dry. Carefully peel the insect off the wax paper.
- Stick the insects to a window in your classroom.

EXTENSIONS

- Ask students to discuss what role their insect plays in the rain forest ecosystem.

