

# COMMON INVERTEBRATES

*What small creatures can we discover outside?*

*An at-home activity provided by the Hopkins Memorial Forest*

## OVERVIEW



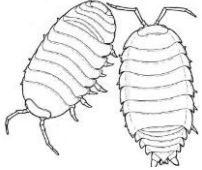



Invertebrates are animals that do not have a backbone. Examples of invertebrates include sea stars, sea urchins, earthworms, sponges, jellyfish, lobsters, crabs, insects, spiders, snails, clams, and squid. In this activity, you will search for invertebrates outside, whether you're in a garden, yard, or forest.




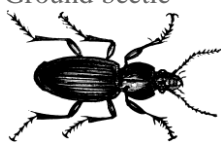


## MATERIALS NEEDED


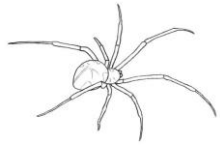
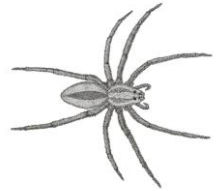
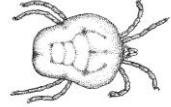

- This sheet
- A clipboard
- A sharpened pencil
- Gardening or plastic gloves
- Optional: colored pencils, a plastic cup, magnifying glass

## PROCEDURE

1. With an adult, go outside! A wooded area is ideal for this activity, but a garden, yard, wood or compost pile or other area with soil is fine, too.
2. Using your gloves, search through undergrowth, leaves, and sticks to see what invertebrates you can find. You can put them in a plastic cup to better observe them. If you have a magnifying glass, all the better. Record your findings in the table provided – feel free to sketch what invertebrates you find!
3. Draw a map of your local invertebrate habitat – chart where you found each invertebrate – label them and their habitat features, i.e. log, moss, grass, dead leaves, etc. Why do you think they choose to dwell there?

Invertebrate	Number found	Observations/location/sketch
Earthworm 		
Potworm (white worm) 		
Isopod (wood louse, roly-polly, pill bug) 		
Slug 		
Centipede 		
Millipede 		

<p>Fly larva</p> 		
<p>Beetle larva</p> 		
<p>Earwig</p> 		
<p>Ground beetle</p> 		
<p>Rove beetle</p> 		
<p>Ant</p> 		

<p>Springtail</p> 		
<p>Orb (web-spinning) spider</p> 		
<p>Wolf spider</p> 		
<p>Mite</p> 		
<p>Daddy long-legs (harvestman)</p> 		
<p>Other</p>		