**Theme Packets Insects**

**Rhymes and Fingerplays**

**Butterflies**

*(pretend fingers are butterflies, actions match words)*

- Butterflies up, butterflies down,
- Butterflies dancing all around.
- Dance them on your shoulders, dance them on your toes,
- Dance them on your arms, dance them on your nose!
- Butterflies up, butterflies down,
- Butterflies dancing all around.
- Dance them on your knees, dance them on your head,
- Dance them on your tummy...
- Then tuck them into bed!

**Five Hungry Ants**

- Five hungry ants, marching in a line
- They came upon a picnic, where they could dine,
- They marched into the salad,
- They marched into the cake,
- They marched into the pepper,
- Uh-oh! That was a mistake!
- AAACCHHHOOOOOOOOOO!!

**Don’t Bother Bees**

- Never bother a bee buzz buzz...
- He has got a stinger, you see buzz buzz...
- Be he worker, be he drone,
- You had best leave the bee alone!
- Buzz, buzz....

**Bee Hive**

- Here is the beehive
- But where are all the bees?
- They’re hidden inside
- Where nobody sees.
- Let’s count the bees
- As they come out of the hive.
  - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5!
  - Bzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz

**Things to do Together**

- **Find the Insect by Cate Foley** is a fun book with real photographs of bugs that are camouflaged by their environments. See if your children can find the insects hiding in this book.
- Talk about the different sounds that insects make (bees, flies, crickets, butterflies...) Some are noisy and some are silent. Which insects are noisy? Which are very quiet?
- Pet for a day—set up a home “for the day” in order to observe an insect. Use a clear plastic container and put foil or wax paper—with holes for air—on top. Gather grass, leaves, sticks, etc. to make the insect feel more “at home.” Caterpillars, ladybugs, grasshoppers, or pill bugs (roly poly) are a few that would be fun to watch.
- Make sure children understand that they have to put the bugs back at the end of the day. Their real home is outdoors!

**Other Resources**

- **Bee-Boppin’ Bugs by Nancy Stewart** (music CD)