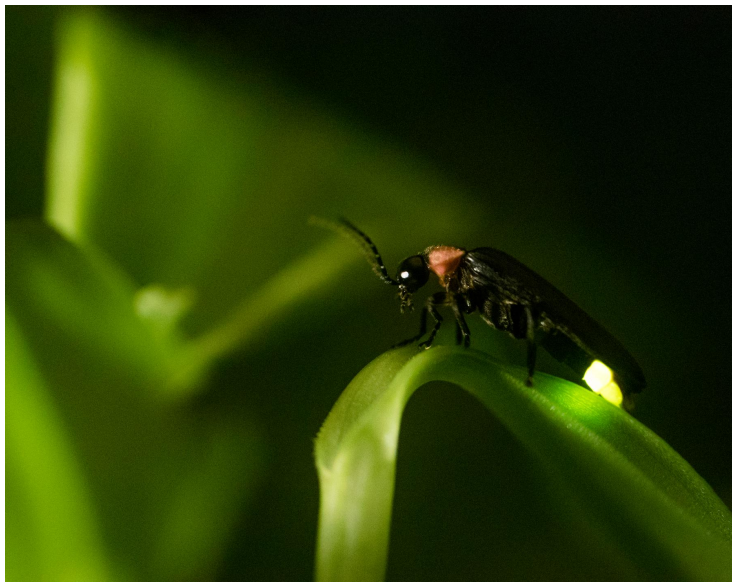


Fireflies



Picture It!

Check out these pictures of fireflies!



Fireflies

What's the gist?

- Fireflies are also called “lightning bugs.”
- Fireflies are beetles and not flies.
- They have an interesting life cycle whereby they go through “complete metamorphosis,” like frogs and butterflies, consisting of 4 stages: egg, larva, pupa, and adult.
- The firefly’s eggs and larva glows, and the larva is sometimes called glowworms.
- Fireflies are found in marshes and wet wooded areas and even arid habitats.
- Worldwide, there have been identified more than 2000 species of fireflies. Fireflies that are “nocturnal,” come out at night, and light up by a chemical process called “bioluminescence.” The prefix “bio,” means living, and, “luminescence,” light production.
- The light production is used to attract mates and to warn predators like toads, lizard, snakes, and birds not to eat them or they will get sick.
- The flash patterns differ among species of fireflies and they use them to identify and “chat” with members of their species.
- One species of female fireflies has learned the flash patterns of males of other species and will attract them and eat them for dinner!
- Not all fireflies flash. Some use chemical scent called “pheromones” to attract mates, or a combination of light and chemical scent. F

Learning Links

Take a look at these materials to further your experience!

Read a story, Listen to a story, Take a tour here: <https://bit.ly/30v3yAQ>

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Plant Database:

https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=hean3

Science Kids: Sunflower Facts for Kids:

<https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/plants/sunflowers.html>

The Great Sunflower Project:

<https://www.greatsunflower.org/> is a citizen science project that focuses on pollinators.

How to Plant, Grow and Harvest Sunflowers in Your Garden:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jp-ngQtP-q4>

Activity Corner

Check out these awesome activities for an enriching learning experience!

Backyard Science: Summer's Shining Stars:

<https://www.kidsdiscover.com/parentresources/fireflies-light/>

Make Glowing Water:

<https://www.thoughtco.com/how-to-make-glowing-water-607629>

Firefly Conservation and Research: Citizen Science- Help support firefly research and conservation:

<https://www.firefly.org/>

How to Build a Firefly Habitat:

<https://www.firefly.org/build-firefly-habitat>

Firefly Activities for Kids:

<https://buggyandbuddy.com/firefly-crafts-kids/>

The Very Lonely Firefly by Eric Carle | A glowing tale! [CC]:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_XrPyF4Mpl4

IT'S A FIREFLY NIGHT Read Aloud Book for Kids:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fiVl7zS53yl>