



Invite children to explore the contents of the “tub” without any direction other than showing respect for the materials and using them in a designated area or workspace. The question prompts (Side 2) may be used to support the curiosities, conversations, and critical thinking that rise from engagement with the materials. It is up to you the educator to select the questions which are appropriate for your children as they play.

List of Contents*

- Variety of plastic bugs and insects
- Craft sticks
- Wood cubes
- Rocks
- Tree rings
- Bug bodies
- Fall leaves
- Sparkle stems
- Brown felt square
- Green felt square

*Contents may vary based on availability.

All substituted materials will be suitable for successful tinkering!

**FREE Download for
Insect Images & Resources at
ShopBecker.com/TinkerTubs**

Additional Materials You Might Add

- Nature items such as pebbles, leaves or moss
- Driftwood or sticks
- Magnifying glass or hand lens
- Artificial turf or grass
- Blue, green or brown play dough
- Bug and insect figures or specimens



There are over 1 million kinds of insects! Did you know another name for insects is arthropods? Scientists who study insects are called entomologists. You can be like an entomologist as you explore bugs, insects, and things that crawl with this collection of materials designed to cultivate curiosity, tinkering, and adventure. Explore, design, and create with a variety of insects and habitat play.

- What do you see in the Insect Tub?
- Do you have a favorite insect? How do insects help people?
- Choose an insect or insects from the tub and make up a story.
- If you were an insect, where would you want to live? Why?
- If you were an insect, what would you eat? How do insects eat? Where would you find your food?
- The insects here are made from plastic - they are not real. Describe a real insect you have recently seen.
- Tell me about a time you saw an insect outside. Describe what it looked like. What was it doing?
- What type of insects might you see or observe at a pond or in a forest? Where else do insects live?
- Describe how it feels to touch an insect.
- How are an ant and a ladybug the same? How are they different?
- Can you demonstrate how different bugs move?
- Butterflies can fly. What other insects can fly? What would you do if you could fly like an insect?
- Can you make a sound like a buzzing bee? Why do you think bees buzz? Why are bees important to our environment?
- Do you eat any foods that come from insects?