

BUG-A-PALOOZA

Our Kid Scoop summer is all about insects. Catch the reading bug with our Bug-A-Palooza theme.

Punctuate Your Paragraphs

Divide your students into pairs. Give each student a page of the newspaper, from which he or she copies a paragraph, but leaves out the punctuation. Now get the students to exchange their papers and work on putting the correct punctuation back into the paragraph. When finished, students should check their text against the newspaper and score a point for every correct punctuation mark.

Standards Link: Writing Process: Use strategies to edit written work (e.g., edit for punctuation and capitalization at a developmentally appropriate level).

Plurals

Do your students know the different ways to change a singular noun into a plural? Give each student a page of the newspaper and have them highlight nouns ending in **f, fe, y, ey, o** and **s**. Now have them write out the plurals of those words.

Standards Link: Writing Conventions: Use conventions to spell high frequency, commonly misspelled words.

 To order newspapers for your classroom, call: **419-724-6157**



Each week, the **Kid Scoop Weekly Writing Corner** invites students to submit stories for their own special column. The list of upcoming topics at right will help you to plan how your class will participate.

WEEKLY WRITING CORNER

Add Adjectives

- The dung beetle walked across the table and onto the plate of pickles.
- Rewrite this sentence three times adding colorful adjectives.
- Deadline:** July 5
- Published:** Week of August 2

Bug Games

- Make up a game in which all the players are bugs.
- Deadline:** July 12
- Published:** Week of August 9

There once was a dragonfly ...

- Finish this story.
- Deadline:** July 19
- Published:** Week of August 16

School Closed Forever?

Imagine you arrived at school and the gates were closed. And a big sign reads "SCHOOL CLOSED." What would happen if you no longer had the opportunity to get an education?

Deadline: July 26
Published: Week of August 23

If I Were a Teacher

How would you set up your classroom? What rules would you have? What subject would you teach?

Deadline: August 2
Published: Week of August 30

WEEKLY WRITING CORNER GUIDELINES

Here are some guidelines to give students a better chance of being published.

- 1. Keep length between 50 and 100 words.
- 2. Follow directions for the topic. Creativity is great, but is the entry on topic?
- 3. Make sure entries are legible.
- 4. Students' name, school and grade should be on each entry.
- 5. Screen for appropriateness. We try to avoid potentially embarrassing entries, but sometimes it is not obvious.
- NOTE:** Teachers should include a note if an entry is exceptional for a particular student but might not otherwise stand out.

WEEK OF JULY 5

AMAZING ANTS

There are more than 12,000 species of ants all over the world. Ants range in color from red to black, and they can range in size from one-quarter inch for a worker carpenter ant to three-quarters of an inch for a queen carpenter ant. Although ants are frustrating to us when they get into our homes, ants have an important role in nature. They help control the population of pests such as termites. Learn more about these amazing critters on this week's Kid Scoop Bug-A-Palooza page!

WEEK OF JULY 12

CAMOUFLAGE AND DEFENSE MECHANISMS

Bugs have it tough. They have developed some very clever strategies to avoid being eaten. Some look like twigs, while others change color to match their environment or squirt pungent liquids to deter predators. Find out about the clever ways bugs survive.

WEEK OF JULY 19

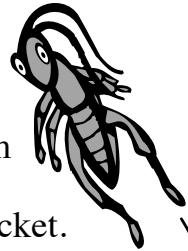
BENEFICIAL BUGS

Nature needs insects. Out in nature, all bugs are part of the ecological balance. But, when people grow plants for food or decoration, insects often eat these plants, and that leads people to think of insects as pests. But, not all bugs are pests. Some help gardeners and farmers. When they do that, people call them "beneficial insects."

WEEK OF JULY 26

CRICKETS

This summer, when the nights get warmer, listen for nature's night music. Some of the music may be coming from a tiny musician, no more than one inch in length, called a cricket. This week's Kid Scoop introduces readers to the cricket—a very musical bug.



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www.KidScoop.com

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