ENTOMOLOGY

Is the study of...

INSECTS!
Where do the Tasty Caterpillars Hide?

Do birds care what kind of tree is in your yard?

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2008
A Little History

• When the settlers first came to the New World this is what they saw...

• The forests were so huge, that a squirrel could travel from Maine to the Mississippi and never touch the ground.
Are there enough places for animals?

54% of the U.S. has been converted to cities or suburbs - Rosenzweig 2003

Two million acres are still lost to development each year - Nature Conservancy
Trees, Birds and Caterpillars

What do baby birds eat?

Where do they get their food?

Do caterpillars care what kind of plant they eat?

I think that they do!
Catalpa - Native
Kudzu – Alien
Aliens?
How do I do this?

• I count birds that are looking for caterpillars on 7 kinds of trees

• Under each tree I put a big piece of cloth. I use it to collect caterpillar frass. (poop)

• What do you think I do with the poop?
I count it!

But why???
More poop = more caterpillars

I compare the amount of poop to the amount of birds I counted eating on the tree.

Then I know if the birds forage on trees where more caterpillars are eating.

I have found (so far) that birds prefer NATIVE not ALIEN trees! - They have more caterpillars.
Questions?

Camel Cricket

[Image: Camel_Cricket_dsc00387_Neda.jpg]

Black Widow Spider

[Image: Black_widow_ventral_1370.jpg]

Male Carpenter Bee

[Image: www.catskillhouse.us]