

Invertebrate Trap Instructions

Today we will be making a few different kinds of traps so that we can examine what kinds of invertebrates live on our campus.

PITFALL TRAP

Materials

- A disposable plastic beverage glass with sloping sides
- Scissors
- Wide-mouth jar

Instructions

1. Cut the bottom of the plastic beverage glass to make a funnel.
2. Place the funnel into any wide mouth jar that will support the cup all the way around the rim.
3. Place the trap where humans will not step on it. Bury the container in the ground up to the rim.
4. Place small bits of apple or pear in the bottom to attract arthropods.
5. You may add “roofing” materials such as sticks and leaves that you find at the site.
6. Check the trap the next day for invertebrates. We will be returning the invertebrates to their habitat after we examine and take pictures of them.

POTATO TRAP

Materials

- Plastic knife
- Potato
- Apple corer

Instructions

1. Hollow out the inside of a potato with the apple corer or plastic knife
2. Place the potato in a moist area and lightly cover with leaves.
3. Check the trap the next day for invertebrates. We will be returning the invertebrates to their habitat after we examine and take pictures of them.