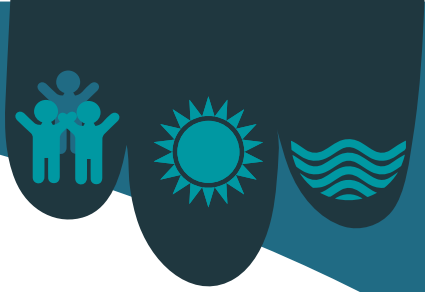


Invertebrate Traps



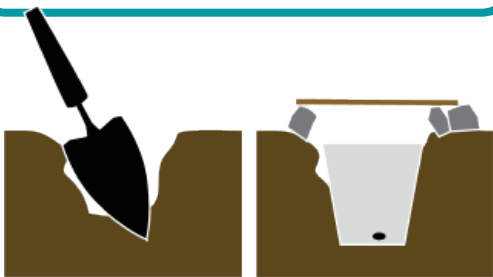
You don't always need a trap to spot invertebrates.

Simply sitting quietly and observing carefully can reveal a variety of fascinating creatures. However, if you'd like to investigate further, here are some simple traps that can help you ...

1. Pitfall Trap

You will need

A trowel
A plastic cup or jar
Stones
A piece of wood or an old leaf



Instructions

1. Dig a small hole in the ground and place the cup inside. Make sure the top of the cup is level with the soil.
2. Place a few small stones around the edges of the hole and lay the piece of wood or leaf over the top, resting it on the stones. Leave the trap for a few hours, then check to see what has been caught.
3. Once finished, release any creatures back into their habitat, clearing trap and filling the hole to leave the area as you found it.

2. Sugared Leaf Trap

You will need

A paintbrush
Sugar or honey
Warm water
A small bowl
A large leaf or piece of bark



Instructions

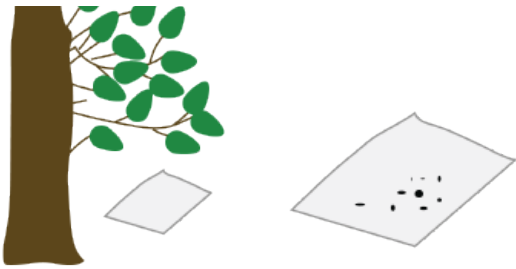
1. Mix a small amount of warm water with sugar or honey in a bowl to create a sticky solution.
2. Allow the mixture to cool slightly, then use a paint brush to spread it on to a large leaf or piece of bark.
3. Place the sugared leaf in an area where invertebrates are likely to visit, such as near bushes, trees, or flowers.
4. Leave the trap for a while and observe which invertebrates are attracted to the sweet surface.
5. Once finished, remove the leaf/bark to avoid disturbing the natural environment.

Invertebrate Traps

3. Beating Tray Trap

You will need

A white sheet
or large piece of white paper
A stick or small branch



Instructions

1. Find a tree or bush with plenty of leaves and branches.
2. Hold the white sheet or paper underneath a branch.
3. Gently tap or shake the branch using a stick to dislodge any invertebrates.
4. Watch as small invertebrates fall onto the sheet.
5. Carefully observe and identify the creatures before letting them go back into their habitat.

4. Light Trap

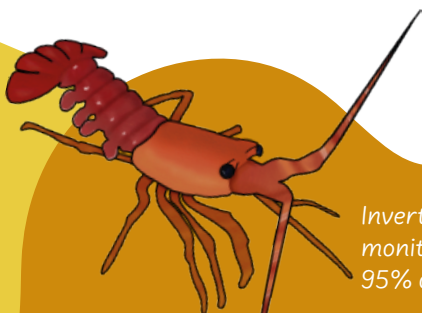
You will need

A bright torch or lamp
A white sheet
or large piece of white paper
String or pegs
(optional, for securing the sheet)



Instructions

1. Find a quiet outdoor space away from other bright lights.
2. Hang or spread out a white sheet against a wall, fence, or between trees. You can secure it with string or pegs if needed.
3. Return after dark and place a torch or lamp in front of the sheet so it shines brightly onto the surface.
4. Wait as nocturnal invertebrates are attracted to the light and land on the sheet.
5. Observe the different species that appear, then let them fly away undisturbed.



Invertebrate recordings help scientists monitor biodiversity as they make up over 95% of animal species.