



June 2009

Dear Student,

I am looking forward to teaching you in Honors Zoology this year. Before we get started I want to be sure that you know some things about the course.

Honors Zoology is indeed an honors course. You should pass Biology and Chemistry before taking this course. We study all members of the animal kingdom in detail. In order to study the internal anatomy of animals, Zoology students perform a number of dissections. If you are uncomfortable with animal dissections, please reconsider your decision to take Honors Zoology.

You may have already picked up a handout which explains the summer assignment, an insect collection. Your assignment is to collect and preserve fifteen different insects. Insects are most abundant during the summer months, so it is important to get started soon!

If you have any questions about the course or the summer assignment, please email me at [rgroh@aacps.org](mailto:rgroh@aacps.org), or bring your questions to me before school ends. I look forward to seeing you in class next year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Groh  
Honors Zoology teacher

## **HONORS ZOOLOGY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT**

This assignment IS NOT due until after the beginning of school next year, but it is MUCH better to start during the summer, while the animals are still out!

You will be required to collect fifteen (15) insects to include in your insect collection. Insects have six legs, so forget about the spiders, centipedes, millipedes, ticks, or those little potato bugs that look like armadillos.

Here are some pointers on how to catch insects. Use a net, jar or plastic bag. Be careful with the bees and wasps, and any insects of mysterious nature. Put them in a container and place them in our freezer. The insects will slowly go to sleep, they expire in their sleep. They will also be nicely preserved.

Leave your insects in the freezer for at least several days. If you take them out before that, they may revive. If you want to store them outside of the freezer, open the container to allow airflow, or else they will grow moldy.

You will be finding out the names of your insects in class. Your insects must be intact enough to identify, so be very careful to preserve them as much as possible.

**HAPPY HUNTING !!**

