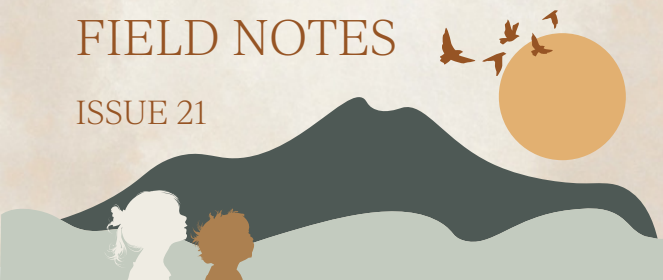


# Nat Theo Club

## FIELD NOTES

ISSUE 21



## Calligraphy Beetle

INSECT

### HABITAT & DIET

All across the United States (Except Hawaii), Canada, and Mexico. Eat leafy plants, so often found in gardens and forests.

### FUN FACT:

Like other beetles, Calligraphy Beetles go through complete metamorphosis. This means they begin as eggs, hatch as larva, go through a pupa phase (like a caterpillar in a chrysalis), and then become adult beetles.



## DO YOU LIKE FINDING NEW INSECTS?

What are some favorite insects or other creatures you love seeing or finding when exploring outside? One of my favorite things to do in the evening is walk slowly through our garden, looking for insects. I love seeing what kinds of creatures are crawling around our plants. This week, I found a beetle I had never seen before: a Calligraphy Beetle. The smaller photo on the left is the very beetle I found in my garden.

Do you know what calligraphy is? Calligraphy means "beautiful writing." It is a very decorative way of writing words. Calligraphy Beetles are named for the detailed patterns on their forewings (the forewings are called "elytra"). There are many kinds of Calligraphy Beetles with many colors and patterns on their wings. I like to imagine God back at creation, speaking everything into place. As He did, He designed detailed patterns like fancy writing on all the different Calligraphy Beetles.

John 1:3 says "Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made." We can see God's fingerprints on everything in nature. No, not physical fingerprints like ours. However, the more we learn about nature, like the Calligraphy Beetle, the more we understand how He created it all.

A long time ago, a man named Johannes Kepler lived. He was a great scientist. He once wrote these words: "Thus God himself was too kind to remain idle, and began to play the game of signatures, signing his likeness into the world."

What do you think those words mean? Think about a signature. Artists sign their signatures on their art, which is what God did in creation! If you ever have the chance to see a Calligraphy Beetle, admire the beautiful design on its wings and think about God leaving His signatures in nature.

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