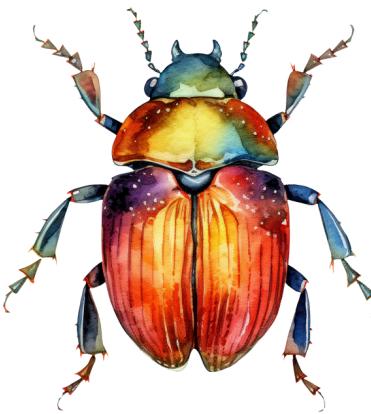


NAT THEO PODCAST

BEETLE

Scavenger Hunt
& Devotional



“You saw my body as it was formed. All the days planned for me were written in your book before I was one day old.”

Psalm 139:16



THE NAT THEO PODCAST
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HOW MANY TYPES OF BEETLES CAN YOU FIND?

- Best location: Meadow or natural area, tall grass, flowering plants.
- If you do not find many beetles, extend this search over a few days or weeks, or even all summer, searching often for magnificent beetles!
- If you have one, bring a magnifying glass to study the beetles' details closely, along with a nature journal and colored pencils to sketch beetles.
- After your adventure, read the devotional on the following page.



A shiny beetle



A flying beetle



A spotted beetle



A beetle climbing a plant



Beetle larvae



A beetle on a flower blossom



Beetle pupa

How many different kinds of beetles did you find?



A long-bodied beetle

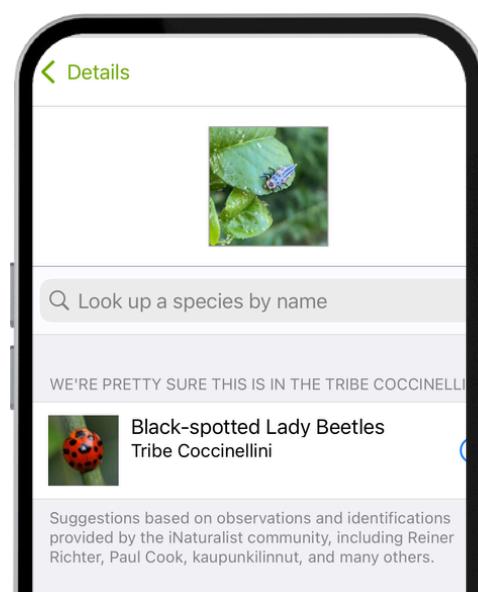
Tip: Use the free iNaturalist app to identify larvae, pupa, and adult beetles!



A striped beetle



Bonus! A light-up beetle (if they are not where you live, ask permission to find a video of one)

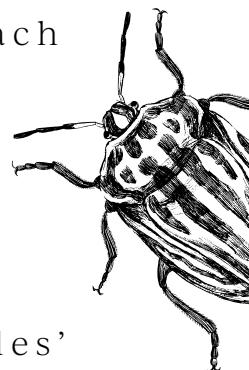


Suggestions based on observations and identifications provided by the iNaturalist community, including Reiner Richter, Paul Cook, kaupunkilinnut, and many others.

EXPLORE GOD'S WORD

Beetles are all around us, and as we practice noticing them, we can see how wonderfully God has designed each kind. One of my favorite things to do in summer is to explore slowly, looking for beetles.

I carefully search blades of grass, plant stems, flower blossoms, and leaves for unique beetles. All beetles go through a metamorphosis, changing in big ways from their baby (larvae) stage to the adult stage. Many beetles' larvae look like tiny worms, caterpillars, or grubs. They tuck themselves into a pupa and emerge as an adult beetle with wings! I love looking at these life cycles. Here are some young beetles I recently found in our neighborhood:



LADYBUG (BEETLE)
PUPA



RABBITBRUSH
BEETLE LARVAE



TORTOISE
BEETLE LARVAE

Beetles and other creatures that go through metamorphosis are a beautiful reminder of God's great design and plans. A beetle may appear to be a different creature from when it begins its life to when it is an adult, but it is always the same creature. It grows up into God's design and plan. God has great designs and plans for our lives, too.

Psalm 139:16 says, "You saw my body as it was formed. All the days planned for me were written in your book before I was one day old." God has had incredible plans for your life since before you were born! If you ever doubt that God has good things and important work in store for you, think about this: God designed more than 400,000 different types of beetles and created each kind to grow up in His design and plan. He cares far more about you! You can trust and follow His great plan.