

**YHBA Novel Resource**  
**Hey There, Stink Bug!**  
**By Leslie Bulion**  
**Charlesbridge Publishing, Inc.**

Skii Ficklin

## **About the Author:**



Leslie Bulion became a Social Worker when she finished college. She did not always know she wanted to be a writer. Leslie has studied oceanography, but the summer she studied entomology developed her love for bugs. That is her inspiration for writing the poems in *Hey There, Stink Bug!* Bulion likes to share her work with other children's authors and they share work with her, too. *I've written lots of essays and articles for adults in magazines and on the internet. Bulion spends most of my time writing books and stories for children. She is also working on other picture books and several chapter books for older kids.*

## **Honors and Awards:**

### **Hey There, Stink Bug!**

Book Sense Winter 2006-2007 Children's Pick List  
Association of Booksellers for Children (ABC) Best Books for Children 2006  
Librarian's Choices Texas Woman's University 2006 Pick  
Capitol Choices Noteworthy Books for Children 2007  
CT Librarians Best Books for Middle Readers 2006  
Association of Children's Librarians of Northern California Distinguished Books 2006  
The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books October Stars  
PLANET ESME 2006 Pick  
Finalist: Animal Behavior Society Outstanding Children's Book Award 2007

Nominee: North Carolina Children's Book Award  
Nominee: Young Hoosier book Award  
Bookbuilders of Boston Book Show Winner

### **Uncharted Waters**

A Kansas State Reading Circle Middle Reader Pick  
A Bank Street Best Book for 2007  
A Public Library of Cincinnati Librarian's Choice for 2006  
A nominee for the Mark Twain Award, summer 2008!

## **Annotation**

The author has written 19 poems about bugs. By using different types of poetry, Bulion makes the reader think about bugs in a different way. The poems are funny and educational. Each poem tells a little bit about a different bug.

**Genre:** Poetry

**Point of View:** Varies, sometimes it is a bug. Other times it is a person talking about a bug.

**Theme:** The themes in this book are bugs, along with poetry. The reader will understand a little more about how poems can be put together, while learner facts about insects.

**The Title:** The title of the book is actually the title of the second poem. It is funny and lets the reader know the book is about bugs.

**Conflict/ Resolution:** I would say there really is no conflict in this book. The poems are a collection. They have similar topics, but do not relate to each other.

## **Characters/ Topics:**

Butterflies  
Stink bugs  
Aphid  
Bombardier Beetle  
Flies  
Japanese Beetle  
Skipper Caterpillar

Spider  
Doodlebugs  
Firefly  
Swallowtail  
Yellow Jackets  
Wolf Spider  
Dung Beetle  
Termite  
Parasitic Wasps  
Tortoise Beetle  
Beetles

## **Setting**

Mainly bug environments. There really is no setting for this book. It is a collection of poems with bugs as the topic.

## **Interest/Reading Level:**

Reading Level: Grade 2 -5, Ages 9-12

Interest Level: 7 years and up

## **Indiana Standards for Book:**

Reading 3.1, 3.2, 3.3

## **Booktalk**

This book is a collection of funny poems about bugs. Some are grosser than others. You will learn about insects in a fun exciting way. If you like poetry, this is the book for you. If you like bugs, this is the book for you. Even if you think bugs are gross, give this book a chance.

## **Discussion Questions:**

### **Pre-reading**

Journal Prompt: What is your opinion about bugs? Are you scared of bugs? Do you like playing with bugs? Do you think bugs have a purpose?

1. How many bugs does the author say there are per one of you? P.8
2. When do stink bugs let loose their stinky fluid? P.10

3. What is parthenogenesis? P. 12
4. What does the bombardier beetle do to its enemy? P.13
5. What is the young wormlike form of a fly? P.15
6. What are the Japanese Beetles' wing covers called? P. 16
7. How does the skipper caterpillar trick its enemy? P. 19
8. What is spider silk for? P.21
9. What is special about the antlion larva? P. 23
10. What does the female firefly do to the male firefly that is not her type? P.25
11. How are swallowtail caterpillars disguised? P. 26
12. How does a yellow jacket call for back-up? P.27
13. How many eyes do wolf spiders have? P.29
14. What do dung beetles eat? P. 30
15. What are termite groups called? P. 31
16. What are parasitic wasps used for by farmers and gardeners? P. 33
17. How does tortoise beetle larvae survive? P. 35
18. What is entomology? P. 36

Post-reading:

Draw a picture of your favorite bug from the book *Hey There, Stink Bug!* Underneath your picture, write a paragraph describing your bug. Give it a name and a history. Use your imagination to discuss the bug's family and friends.

Indiana Standards for the discussion activities: 3.2,4.2 5.2

## **Vocabulary:**

**Ornamental p.8**-providing ornament; decorative

**Sentimental p.8**-expressive of or appealing to sentiment

**Devious p.8**-departing from the proper or accepted way

**Forewarned p.9**-to warn in advance

**Habitat p.10**-the natural environment of an organism

**Ghastly p.14**-shockingly frightful or dreadful

**Propeller p.18**-a device having a revolving hub with radiating blades

**Wily p.18**-crafty; cunning

**Ferocious p.23**-savagely fierce, as a wild beast

**Ravenous p.26**-greedy, starved, devouring

**Pulverize p.28**-to reduce to dust or powder, as by pounding or grinding

**Grouse p.31**-any of numerous gallinaceous birds of the subfamily Tetraoninae

**Intrigue p.37**-to arouse the curiosity or interest of by unusual, new, or otherwise fascinating or compelling qualities;

**Flitter p.37**-to flutter

**Scurry p.37**-to go or move quickly or in haste

### **Anticipation Guide:**

Before		Hey There, Stink Bug! by Leslie Bulion	After	
Agree	Disagree		Agree	Disagree
		Bugs are gross.		
		Bugs do nothing for humans.		
		Bugs want to bite humans.		
		Bugs are not smart.		
		All bugs are ugly.		
		Bugs want to eat what humans eat.		
		Bugs are boring.		

### **Read Aloud:**

**A Dog's Life: The autobiography of a Stray by Ann M. Martin**

p. 9

*This is an insect world with humans in it. We'll seize the day, but they will win it. You've been forewarned, now let's begin it-Take a closer look..... at Bugs.*

**Before:** Have you ever thought about how many bugs there are in the world?

**After:** What does the author mean when she says that "they will win it?"

p.37

It's a bug's world of intrigue and mystery, with humans a blip in their history. So when insects flutter and scurry past us take note, because they may outlast us!

**Before:** Why are some people scared of bugs?

**After:** How are bugs full of mystery?

## **Read Alikes:**

*Fireflies at Midnight* by Marilyn Singer-This book is also poems about nature. It describes several creatures' lives on one summer day.

*Song of the Waterboatman and Other Pond Poems* by Joyce Sidman- this book is also poems about nature, particularly the creature living on a pond.

## **Across Curriculum Connections:**

**Science:**

### **Lesson #1**

**Purpose:** At the end of this activity students will have a deeper understanding of the bug they have selected.

Student Directions: Look through a book about bugs or go to the [www.kidsask.com](http://www.kidsask.com) website and search for bugs.. Select a bug to learn more about and read. Write a story about that bug including at least three new facts you learned.

Evaluation: Students can check the information they included in their story by verifying in it the informational book from which they learned it. Have the students choose writing partners to read their story. If it does not make sense they can edit and revise. Then have students share the stories with classmates and the school.

### **Lesson #2**

**Purpose:** At the end of this activity the student will have searched their house and surrounding neighborhood for insects. The students will complete a chart that will help the students organize the name, physical description, location where found, and any unique characteristics of the insect. The students will share their findings with the class. The time of this activity will primarily be based on the amount of time the students decide to devote to the activity.

Materials:

Copies of the insect chart (enough for each class member)

Activity:

The teacher will then explain that for the evening he/she would like the student to go home and pay close attention to their house and neighborhood. Ask your parent(s) to go on a walk with you where parent and child can be on the lookout for insects.

The student will take with him/her on the walk the chart that the teacher is handing out and the students will need to list as many different insects as possible.

The students will need to:

List the name of the insect (if students do not know the name for the insect they can draw a picture of the insect and bring the picture to class, so friends can help identify it.)

Provide a description of the insect

Describe where the insect was found

Describe any unique characteristics of the insect

When the students return to class the next day they will share their results with the class

Assessment: Students will be assessed based on the information they were able to include in their written chart. If students complete their chart with detailed information that shows a student's depth of analysis when investigating insects in the home, then it will be possible to discern that they have mastered the assignment.

Indiana Standard: Science 3.2,3.4,4.1,4.2,4.4,5.2,5.4

Mrs. Ficklin's Science Class  
Bug Chart

Name or picture	Description	Where it was found	Unique characteristics


## **Resources:**

[http://www.charlesbridge.com/client/client\\_pdfs/downloadables/HEYTHE~1.PDF](http://www.charlesbridge.com/client/client_pdfs/downloadables/HEYTHE~1.PDF)- A lot of really cool activities that go along with this book from the publisher.

[www.lesliebulion.com](http://www.lesliebulion.com) – The author’s page has a really cool bug journal with pictures of actual bugs.

For different themes from the book, these are great resources

THEME: Entomology

Web Resources: Identifying pests <http://www.ppdI.purdue.edu/ppdl/index.html>

THEME: Haiku Poetry

Web Resources: Recognizing a Haiku <http://www.kidzone.ws/poetry/haiku.htm>

Examples of Haiku Poems <http://www.gigglepoetry.com/poetryclass/Haiku.html>

THEME: Recycling

Web Resources: Learning about recycling <http://earth911.com/recycling/>

Learning about recycling and fun items for kids <http://www.epa.gov/recyclecity/>

THEME: Butterflies

Web Resources: All about butterflies

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/butterflies/allabout/>

Facts about butterflies <http://www.butterflyschool.org/student/index.html>

Promote and restore butterfly habitats <http://www.butterflyrecovery.org/education/>

## **Book Activities:**

#1 We have read many different types of poems in Hey There, Stink Bug! Write your own poems using one of the poems in book as inspiration. For each poems in the book and the poem you wrote, discuss them type of poetry that is used. Fill out the table provided. Each poem type is worth 5 points for a total of 100 points.

<b><u>Title of Poem</u></b>	<b><u>Type of Poem</u></b>
Go Buggy!	
Hey There, Stink Bug!	
Multiplication	
The Hot Shot	
Flies	
Japanese Beetle	
Making Scents	
Nightmare	
Antlion	
Foiled by the Lights	
Advice to Caterpillar	
Swarm	
Wolf Spider Mama	
Dung Beetle	
Recycling	
Thanklessness	
Housekeeping	
Beetlemania	
Watch Your Step	
Your own poem	

## #2 Journal Prompt

Write a Haiku describing how you feel in nature or how bugs make you feel.

Indiana Standards: 3.4, 3.5, 4.4, 4.5, 5.4, 5.5

## **Bibliography:**

<http://www.lesliebulion.com>- for all information on the author

[.http://www.dictionary.com/](http://www.dictionary.com) - for vocabulary definitions

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) – for read alike book descriptions and reading level

<http://www.doe.state.in.us/standards/welcome2.html>- for Indiana Academic Standards,

<http://www.lessonplanspage.com/ScienceBugsInsectsSpidersIdea3.htm>- - for lesson plan for Science Cross Curricular lesson.

<http://iitc.tamu.edu/lessons/lesson11.html> - For lesson plan for Science Cross Curricular lesson.