MEET THE BEETLES!

drawings, sculptures and sedokas by
Ms. Richardson's 5th graders

THE BEATLES

We love them,
yeah, yeah, yeah!

Stony Point School
December 2006
We would like to thank
Donna
Mary Lou
and
Ms. Richardson
for
making this book possible.
MEET THE BEETLES

STEP by STEP
By: Franklin Morris & Alex McNair

On the first day, we came in FAB and we talked about what we were doing. Donna and Mary Lou told us that we would be doing a project on beetles. At first most of us thought that it would be boring but, it had turned out to be one of the best school projects we have ever done.

MISSION...BEETLE!

First, we all chose a beetle from a large collection of books and we also used the internet. After that, we recorded what beetle we had picked on a big piece of paper. We then had to start note taking and note making. The next time we came in, we had to make a brief sketch of our beetle in our journal. Later on, we looked in books and on the internet to find a bird’s eye view of our beetle and then draw it. The week after that, we were introduced to sculpy (clay)! We had to make a 3-D version of our bird’s eye view drawings. That took us about two weeks. After everyone was done, Mary Lou baked the sculpy beetles to harden them. When we got to FAB the next week, Donna told us that we were going to make sedokas from our notes. A sedoka is a Japanese poem that has two paragraphs with three sentences in them. The first sentence had to have five syllables, the second 7, and the third, 7. Next time we came, we put our sculpy beetles on foil. We then printed our sedokas and cut them out. Then, we mounted (glued) our bird’s eye view pictures and sedokas on to a piece of cardboard paper. And then we were done!

Models shown in Library
BYE!!!
Elderberry Beetle
By: Abby Weaver

Endangered species
Black with a long yellow stripe
Lives in California

Loss of habitat
They eat Elderberry shrubs
Females are longer than males
BOMBARDIER BEETLE
By: Buddy Andersen

Small yellow beetle
Evolution miracle
Expels toxic chemicals

Although he can hurt
Interesting little bug
Long spindly wire-like gold legs
Firefly

By: Maydha Kapur

Lightning bug flashes
It eats plant nectar quickly
Flashes to find a fast friend

Small brown body black
Long wings, a hard elytra
The small firefly soared away
Click Beetle

Black and white dotted
That makes a wonderful click
Which flips itself in the air

Hard bodied insect
That has fake and scary eyes
It arches up in the air.

By Cody Herring
It lives in meadows
Eats aphids and small insects
Only four to five inches

Have large, white fake eyes
Black shell that covers its wings
Bright red spots cover blackness
By: Franklin Morris

Fights often for life
Uses horns for protection
Loves to munch on rotting wood

Leaving the places
Great Britain’s largest insect
Large horns for subduing prey
Scarab Beetles

By: Amy Ni

Scarabs feed on roots.
Scarabs are metallic green.
Scarabs have a large species.

Scarabs are c-shaped.
Egypt thinks they ruled the sun.
They are believed as sacred.
NUT WEEVIL
Alex McNair

The very strange snout
Which occupies the small mouth
Drills into some small, hard nuts

Causing death to crops
Farmers try their very best
To keep free of this small pest
Weevil Beetle

By: Marie Schneider

Tropical Forests
A Blue Dotted Black Beetle
When Scared, Tucks Antenna In

2 Millimeters
Part of a Snout Family
Very Hard Bodied Beetle
Japanese Beetle
By Brandon Wiseman

Legs spring back for flight
Fly like bird in search for food
A metallic Samurai

It’s ready for war
Fly fast as kamikaze
Ready to fight anything.
Diving Beetle
By: Brittany M.

One to one fifth inch
Big body scares animals
Eats fish and other things in

Water and big eyes
Eyes scare animals away
Big body helps to swim well.
Stag Beetle
by Michael Bryant

They do drink fruit juice
Feed on rotting tree matter
It’s also called pinching bug

Mr. Stag has red spots
Life cycle of seven years
The stag beetle needs woodlands
Leaf Beetles
By Larry Castle

Leaf beetles eat leaves
This bug is red, black, yellow
Some elm leaf beetles are pests

An imported leaf beetle
Less than a week the eggs hatch
Lay clusters of yellow eggs
Ladybird beetle
By: Alyssa Carroll

When enemy comes
It lies on its back or it
Sprays yellow foul smelling liquid

Out of its leg joints
There legs are retractable
They are very much like ladybugs
Sun Beetle

By Sophie Bromberger

Exoskeleton
Has the most species on earth
The most successful creature
Eat plants and fungi
Live on land or fresh water
Egg- larva- pupa- adult
Giraffe Weevil
By Macon Forloines

Three inches in length
Found by a school principal.
Neck like a common giraffe

It is black and red.
It lives in Madagascar.
Name is trachelophorus.
Goliath Beetle
by Chandler Hamilton

It is not pretty
It never sparkles or gleams
That is not what makes it cool

🚫! not laser beams!
It is very, very strong
Strongest of all the beetles
Browni Snout Weevil Beetle

By: Cage Lambert

Adult snout beetle
One quarter of an inch long
Tapered head with slender snout

Larva is legless
White eggs are laid in bark holes
A small light brown head capsule
GOLIATHUS BEETLE
BY JESSE SULLIVAN

NAMED GOLIATHUS
COLEOPTERA ORDER
YOUR ANTANNAE VERY LONG

COLORFUL YOU ARE
PURPLE, BLACK, WHITE, RED AND GREEN
IN YOUR HOME IN AFRICA.
Harlequin Beetle
BY: Lucas Opitz

It’s orange and black.
It has the name Harlequin.
Lives in the bladder pod plant.

The males have long legs.
Most of their lives are as larvae.
Very fascinating bug.
Scarab Beetle
By: Allison Keenan

Some are poisonous,
Always eating plants, fungi,
Can be found in fresh water

Very colorful,
They have six legs and two wings,
Are always everywhere!!!
The Boll Weevil

By: Cole Dickerson

A brown red beetle
Feeding on a cotton plant
Lifts his long snout to the sun

Listening for sounds
Of other beetles feeding
On the scrumptious orchard fruit
The Horse Bean Long Horn
By: Hailey Gelzer

Sitting on a log
A yellow and black beetle
Looking over Mexico

Stretching its body
Listening to the nature
The darkness covers the land
The Wasp Beetle
By: Morgen Leake

Sun bathing in spring
Likes the woodland areas
Found in months of May and June

Lives two to four months
Belongs to Long Horned Beetles
Same colors as a real wasp
The Goliath Beetle

By; Jacob Morris

Yellow and black bug
Heaviest beetle on earth
Very aggressive beetle

Very large black horn
Seize horn and thrust it in air
The loser falls to the ground
Hercules Beetle
By Parker Miller

Big beetle on floor
Fights for his girl `til no more
Lives on the rainforest ground

With black and yellow
He eats leaf litter and fruit
And short red hair on the horn
The bug eats aphids.
This bug is red, black, and white.
All ladybugs are beetles.

Ladybugs can fly.
My bug lays football shaped eggs.
Not all ladybugs are girls.

LADYBUG!

BY      MADELYN    JENSEN
Eupholus bennetti
By Dalton McWilliams

Gem looking beetle
Fakes death drops to ground when mad
Live in Papua New Guinea

Beetle can not fly
Really hard shell long snouted
Has a nice metallic shell
Diamond Beetles
By: Niquea King

True weevil long snout
It is a legless larva.
It lives in warm areas.

It lays egg chambers.
Black and white Diamond beetle.
Shine gold and green jewels.
Adephaga Tiger Beetle

Most have large round eyes
Active runners and fliers
Hard to catch without a net

Visual hunters
Usually found on seashores
Gold and black pattern on back

BY: Kristine Evans
The Tiger Beetle

By Chloe Herring

eats spiders and bugs
lives in dry sandy places
pinchers kill their enemies

has six spots on back
when he gets hot he flies fast
six spots represent the name
DUNG BEETLE
By: Curtis B

Different colors.
Feeds on dung. Feeds dung to young.
They get nutrients from dung.

Two black spots on it.
Feeds on dung. Feeds dung to young.
They get nutrients from dung.
Metallic Wood Boring Beetle

By: Tom Sam

The metallic wood, blue and black still good, plays dead the body is hard or flat

fly when disturbed called flat headed wood borers live in dead trees or bark logs
Colored pencils

SHADING
Using a straightforward side-to-side shading motion, a smooth even layer of color is built up. A very light touch can be used to deposit the faintest amount of pigment for graduated shading.

HATCHING
Rapid, regular, evenly spaced lines are drawn, leaving a little white paper or underlying colour showing.

CROSS-HATCHING
Hatching overlaid at right-angles. This can be done with different colors, or carried through multiple layers, to create a textured effect.

SCUMBLING
The 'brillo pad' method, tiny overlapping circles rapidly drawn. Again, it can be used to build up a single color or different colors.

DIRECTIONAL MARKS
Short directional lines which follow a contour, or the direction of hair or grass or other surfaces. These can be densely overlaid to form a rich textural effect.
**Incised Marks**

Incised Marks: Two thick layers of color are overlaid, then the top color gently scratched into with a blade or pin to let the lower layer show through.

**Burnishing**

Burnishing is simply layers of colored pencil overlaid with strong pressure so that the tooth of the paper is filled and a smooth surface results. This image shows a burnished surface compared with a basic overlay of color. With some colors, especially with waxier pencils than the watercolor pencils used for this example, a quite translucent and jewel-like effect can be obtained with careful burnishing.

- **Tips:**
  - Keep your pencil sharp
  - Use good quality drawing paper
  - Note what colors you use for future reference
  - Have fun!

**Keeping beetles as pets**

Many types of beetles are suitable for keeping in captivity and can be valuable educational pets. Rhinoceros beetles and stag beetles are the easiest to keep alive. These beetles may be kept in a small container with a tight lid that has holes punched in it. The container should be filled with soil that should be kept slightly damp. Feed the beetle a small piece of juicy fruit that needs to be replaced occasionally. Adult rhinoceros and stag beetles live for only a couple months, so they are not extremely difficult to keep alive, even for a small child. If you have a pair of rhinoceros beetles, keep them in a bigger container with more soil and the female may lay eggs in the soil. For people who have the time and patience, the eggs can then be reared into another generation of beetles. The larvae requires only that the soil be kept damp and changed every now and then.
Information about beetles:

Beetles might be the most successful creatures on earth! Their incredible ability to adapt to any environment makes sure that they will exist, probably long after humans have disappeared from earth. One of the most important features of the beetles that makes them distinctly beetles is their elytra, the hard exoskeletal covering over their wings. Elytra have many functions, but the most important is protection for the beetle.

Some species are able to trap moisture on their wings and keep it because the elytra protects it from the heat and wind. This has allowed some species to travel to deserts, where moisture is scarce, because they can carry their own water with them. Other species can live under water because they are able to trap air in their wings and keep it under the elytra.

How did beetles get their names?

The order name Coleoptera is pronounced "co-le-OP-ter-a." This name was first used by Aristotle in the fourth century B.C., more than 5,000 years ago! It comes from the Greek words "koleos," which means sheath (or shield), and "ptera," which means wings. The name refers to the fact that most beetles have hardened front wings, termed elytra, which cover the folded hind wings like a sheath. Insects in the order Coleoptera are commonly called beetles. The common name "beetle" comes from older English words for a "little biter". Larvae of some species are called grubs, wireworms, and rootworms.

More about beetles:

Coleoptera is the largest order in the entire animal kingdom. There are more species of beetles than species of plants! There are about 350,000 named species of beetles in the world and many more unnamed species. In the United States and Canada, there are almost 24,000 species. That's about 30% of all insect species in North America.

Habitats:

Beetles can be found in many land and fresh-water habitats. In addition to being associated with all kinds of plants, they can be found in logs or under bark, in fungi, in mud, in decaying plant and animal matter, in water, in stored food, in bird and mammal nests, and in termite nests. Species in the genus Cremastocheilas (family Scarabaeidae) live in ant nests and feed on ant larvae. Many beetles live deep in the soil or in decaying leaf litter on the ground. Other beetles live under rocks or in caves.
Characteristics of Beetles

Size:

Adult beetles range in size from 0.01 to almost 8 inches in body length, but antennae of some are much longer than their bodies. Beetles usually have hard bodies, but sometimes they are leathery or even have soft bodies. These bodies may be very smooth or very hairy. Most beetles are dark brown or black, but many are red, blue, green, purple or a combination of colors.

Antennae:

Beetles have many types of antennae. Some of them are threadlike, sawtoothed, comblike, featherlike, or clubbed. Some beetles have "lamellate" antennae with segments at the end of the antennae that have long, plate-like projections on one side. Weevils have "elbowed" antennae, with an elbow-shaped joint between the long first segment and remaining shorter segments.

Mouthparts:

Beetle mouthparts are usually the biting and chewing type with well-developed mandibles, or jaws being present. The mandibles may be very large and resemble the antlers of deer in males of stag beetles. Mandibles of some beetles are used in defense or mating instead of in eating. Mandibles of some predaceous (bug eating) larvae are grooved or have a tube inside for injecting digestive enzymes into the prey.

Wings:

Beetles usually have two sets of wings, the hard front wings, or elytra (elytron is singular), and the soft hind wings for flying. The hind wings are folded under the elytra when not in use. The elytra usually extend to the tip, or near the tip, of the abdomen. A special feature of Coleoptera is that the elytra meet in a straight line on the back. Some beetles, such as rove beetles, have short elytra, and most of the abdomen is exposed.

Legs:

The three pairs of legs in beetle species may be modified for swimming, digging, running, grasping, or other activities. Flea beetles (family Chrysomelidae) have hind legs modified for jumping. Males of some water beetles have wide segments for holding the female during mating. Many scarab beetles have sharp spines on their legs that are used for defense against vertebrate predators (animals with backbones).
We used a very old Japanese poetry form to write about our beetles. A haiku is an unrhymed Japanese verse form that records the essence of a moment keenly perceived. We learned that we could combine one form of poetry to become another. The first form is called a katauta. Each katauta was three lines. It follows a pattern of 5-7-7 syllables. Katauta, in Japanese, means “half song”. We put two katautas together to make a full song. These two katautas together form a sedoka.

\[
\text{katauta} + \text{katauta} = \text{sedoka}
\]

To count the syllables, we clapped our hands. The word “beetle” is two claps or two syllables. We used the facts we learned when we did our research.

**Fresh Snow**

Fresh snow on the road,  
once more I will walk the path  
for the first time, yet again.

Maybe tomorrow  
I will tread on today's path,  
or place fresh footsteps in snow.