



As an entomologist,  
I work with all types of  
insects, but I am specifically  
focused on those in wood  
and wood products.

## **Dr. Rachel Arango** **Entomologist**

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## Dr. Rachel Arango



### Important Scientist Characteristics

Curiosity is definitely the thing that has most helped me get where I am today. No matter how old you get there is always something out there to be curious about!

### Example of a simple research question I have tried

**to answer:** The project I am currently working on focuses on termites and termite colonies in Wisconsin. Termites live in an environment that is full of microorganisms that could be potentially harmful to the colony. I am looking at ways in which termites control these microorganisms to ensure the continued health of the termite colony.

### Technology or equipment used in research:

The main piece of equipment I use is a dissecting microscope. For most insects, they are too small to watch carefully with the naked eye.

### • Most Exciting Discovery

• During a survey of a family  
• of beetles in Wisconsin,  
• I discovered a new species  
• that I got to name after my  
• advisor and mentor,  
• Dr. Daniel K. Young!

### • When did you know you • wanted to be a scientist?

• Since I was a kid it had always  
• fascinated me that there was  
• this tiny world all around us  
• that you could miss if you  
• weren't paying attention.  
• I can't think of anything more  
• fun than studying insects.