



Meet the Scientist!



An entomologist studies insects and their interactions with other organisms and environment.

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<http://www.naturalinquirer.org>

Important Scientist Characteristics

To be a good entomologist I have to be curious, a good observer, very organized, and like to count and record a lot of data. I also have to be good at writing and talking about what I have found, both to other scientists and the public.

Example of a simple research question I have tried to answer:

How does temperature affect the growth and survival of wood boring insects that that can kill our trees?

Technology or equipment used in research:

We use environmental growth chambers that we can match the temperature, relative humidity, and light cycle the insects would experience in different geographic places and at different times of the year.

Most Exciting Discovery

It has been exciting working with a group of people from universities and other agencies to develop a trap and lure to detect the Asian longhorned beetle. This trap and lure helps inspectors find it and destroy it before it can move and damage more trees.

When did you know you wanted to be a scientist?

I have loved science since I was a kid, and I often setup my own mini insect experiments. When I finished studying science in college I decided to continue studying to become an entomologist so I could get paid to work with insects and discover new things about them.

<http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/people/mkeena>