

## **Rose Chafer, Carabid & Tiger Beetles**

### **Big World of Insects, Spiders & Bugs Series**

**Subject Areas:** Science, Life Science, Biology

**Synopsis:** Three types of beetles are explored in this program: the rose chafer, the carabid and the tiger beetle. Students will clearly see the parts of an insect, including the head, thorax, abdomen, six legs, antenna and wings. These beetles can be compared and contrasted based on what they eat, how they look, how they move around and other characteristics.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Objective 1)** Students will be able to describe and identify the characteristics of an insect, including the three body parts and six legs.
- Objective 2)** Students will be able to compare and contrast these three types of beetles.
- Objective 3)** Students will be able to describe different species of beetles.

**Vocabulary:** Define and discuss the following key terms:

Rose chafer, dexterous, ungainly, undergrowth, carabus, carabid, forage, tiger beetle, prey, mandibles, pincers, predator, centipede, larva

**Pre-Viewing Questions and Discussion:**

- 1) What characteristics do all insects have in common? How are these creatures classified?
- 2) Do you consider insects to be pests? Why or why not? Explain your answer.

**Post-Viewing Questions and Discussion:**

- 1) Several different beetles are shown in this program. Write down descriptions of each beetle as the program is played.
- 2) Describe the chafer beetle. How is it built? How does it move? What do chafer beetles eat?
- 3) Where do chafer beetles live? Have you ever seen one of these beetles?
- 4) Describe the carabus (carabid) beetle. Compare and contrast this beetle with the rose chafer beetle.
- 5) How does the carabid beetle find food? What does it eat? How does it eat?
- 6) Describe tiger beetles. How many different species of tiger beetle are there? Describe how the tiger beetle moves. Compare and contrast this beetle with the rose chafer and carabid beetles.
- 7) What creatures would be considered prey for a tiger beetle?

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- 8) Describe what happens when a tiger beetle encounters a centipede.
- 9) What does a baby tiger beetle look like? What do the larva eat? Describe how the firebug is able to escape from the baby tiger beetle.

### **Additional Activities:**

- 1) Draw a detailed picture of a rose chafer, a carabid and a tiger beetle. On each beetle, label the head, thorax, abdomen, six legs, wings and antenna. Include 3 facts about each beetle with each drawing.
- 2) Pretend you are one of the three beetles shown in this program. Write a fictional story about your day as you move around and find food. Do you have thick armor, or are you a fast moving beetle? Are you a vegetarian or a carnivore?
- 3) Research the life cycle of the tiger beetle. What is the larva called? Where would you expect to find these beetles? How long does the larva live before transforming into the adult beetle? Where are tiger beetles found around the world? How many species are there? Include some illustrations of different beetles with your report.
- 4) Are rose chafer beetles a pest to gardeners? How do gardeners deal with them? Are there any natural predators of the chafer beetle?
- 5) Create a chart or table that compares and contrasts the three different beetles: rose chafer, carabid and tiger. Include important facts in your chart like the total number of species, food, predators, where the beetle lives, etc.

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