

THE FLYSPECK FLYER

Cleaner-Uppers

By Nellie Fly
WORLD'S SMALLEST REPORTER

Dung beetles are nature's clean-up bugs. They eat and bury animal waste. This activity recycles important nutrients into the soil and buries waste that attracts pests such as flies. A dung beetle can bury up to 250 times its own weight in dung in a night.

How much do you weigh?

Multiply that by 250
lbs.

That number is the amount of dung you could bury if you were a dung beetle.

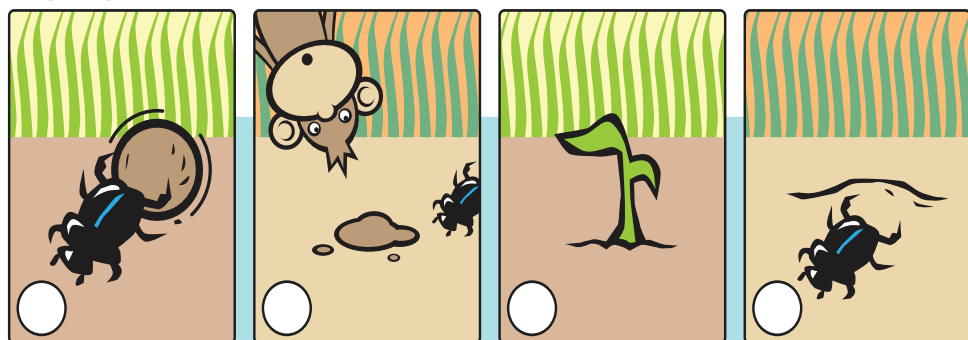
Dung Beetles

NATURE'S CLEAN-UP CREW

It's a dirty job, but someone has to do it!

Monkey See, Monkey Do

In rainforests, dung beetles roll up balls of monkey dung containing fruit seeds from the monkey's meal. They bury the monkey dung, seeds and all. After a while, the seeds sprout and grow new trees.



Number these pictures in order.

Standards Link: Life Science: Students know that all organisms cause changes in their environments and these changes can be beneficial.

Don't Mess with Texas

Some experts say that dung beetles clean up 80% of the cow manure in parts of Texas.

Three Dung Beetle Groups

Each dung beetle belongs to one of three groups: **rollers**, **tunnelers**, or **dwellers**.

Rollers shape dung into balls that they roll. They then bury these dung balls to eat later or to use as a place to lay eggs. When the eggs hatch, the larvae eat the dung.

Tunnelers bury their dung balls by tunneling underneath a pile of dung and taking their treasure underground.

Dwellers – Can you guess what they do? Write your guess here:

Now fill in the missing vowels to figure out why they are called dwellers.

DW _ LL _ RS
LIV _ _ NS _ D _
P _ L _ S _ F _
D _ NG.

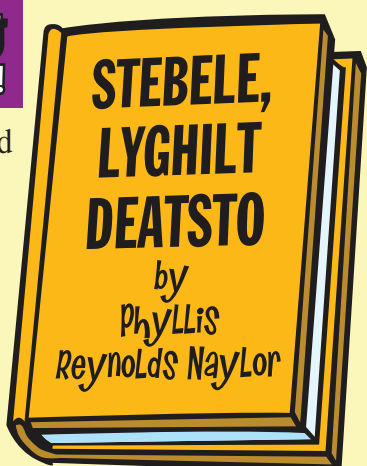
Catch the Reading Bug at Your Library This Summer!

How can Andy be inventive and imaginative in an essay contest on conservation? He comes up with the idea of people eating insects as a way of conserving their food budgets. Before long he's making toasted beetles and more.

Unscramble the title of this book. Then, check it out at your local library this summer! - Bert Bookworm



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Read age-appropriate text in a variety of genres.



Double Double Word Search

DUNG
TUNNELERS
NOURISH
BURIES
RECYCLES
SYMBOL
MONKEY
CLEAN
ROLL
BURY
PILE
FLIES
SOIL
GROW

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

S O I L N E D N W C
S R A A L S O U O T
E S E I R U B N N E
L L P L R F T U C G
C L E I E I L L R A
Y N S U N N L I P Y
C H C E M O N K E Y
E R N G R O W U E S
R T L O B M Y S T W

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:
DUNG

The noun **dung** means the manure of animals.

Dung beetles roll **dung** into round balls.

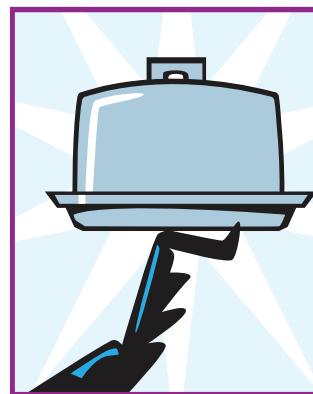
Try to use the word **dung** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Exclamation Points!

Count all the exclamation points you can find in each section of the newspaper. Graph your results. Which section has the most? Why do you think this is?

Standards Link: Data Analysis: Students summarize and display data results in a clear and organized way.



What do dung beetles always have for dinner?

ANSWER: Leftovers.

Write On!

Add Adjectives

Add colorful adjectives to this sentence:
The dung beetle walked across the table and onto the plate of pickles.