

Mythology Insect Collection				
	Scientific name	Common name	BQB #	Significance
1	<i>Apis mellifera</i>	Western Honey Bee	80J0054V	The honey bee has been mentioned in many works of art and literature. In mythological works, the sun god Ra's tears created honey bees and beekeeper gods were mentioned as well. Honey bees were mentioned in transformation mythologies and even serve as a symbol for some forms of literature.
2	<i>Trengganua sibylla</i>	Cicada	1F0053	The cicada has been mentioned in many works regarding transformations. One Greek mythology describes a cicada replacing a string on a cithara and playing a song to help Eunomos during a competition. The ancient Greeks told a story of men who were so obsessed with singing they forgot to eat and drink. These men were turned by the Muses into cicadas. In ancient China, small cicadas were carved out of jade and placed in the mouths of dead people to aid in their rebirth.
3	<i>Phormia regina</i>	Black Blow Fly	97D0015A	The blow fly has been a symbol of death for many cultures. Flies in general have been mentioned in mythological works both in the form of gods, or serving as symbols for Babylonian seals! Blowflies appear in several Native American legends and have been associated with disease in many tribes because of their tendency to buzz around filth and carcasses, and like other swarming insects, blowflies were sometimes associated with curses or other evil magic. In the Ojibwe tribe, blue-bottle flies are associated with drought and in some communities, killing flies was thought to bring back the rain. In some southwestern tribes, on the other hand, flies were credited with bringing the first fire to the people.
4	<i>Sulcophanaeus menelas</i>	Dung Beetle	1C9100	The dung beetle is one of the most popular beetle species mentioned in Egyptian mythologies. Often referred to as a scarab beetle, this beetle was considered an important insect given the nature of the sun god Ra's ability to raise the son anew and the dung beetle's ability to raise young in a dung ball as well. This was considered a heavenly cycle to Egyptians. The dung beetle also looks similar to the beetle portrayed in the movie "The Mummy" in 1999!
5	<i>Theopompa sp.</i>	Praying Mantis	5V0041	In South African mythologies, the mantis is said to be intertwined with man and nature. This insect is also considered to have supernatural abilities according to Egyptian and Greek mythologies.
6	<i>Acherontia lachesis</i>	Greater Death's Head Hawk Moth	1H0010	The death's head hawk moth is another unique insect species who resembles death with the skull shape on the thorax. The name itself is from Greek mythologies resembling death making it a feared moth and considered a bad omen to some cultures. This moth also got its Hollywood spotlight in the movie "The Silence of the Lambs" in 1991!
7	<i>Appias albina agatha</i>	Black White Butterfly	6B0313	Butterflies are mentioned in many literary works and are a basis for art, literature, and all things dainty. The oldest surviving art depicting butterflies is from 1350 BC, in Thebes, Egypt depicted in a painting of Nebamun hunting in the marshes. Nebamun is shown in a boat with his wife and daughter, in the marshes surrounding a part of the Nile River, hunting birds of all kinds. Included with the vast swarm of birds are a number of butterflies. Butterflies in other mythologies represent the soul or life anew. Some groups from Myanmar even claim to be relatives to the butterfly showing the significance it has played in their world.

8	<i>Aeshna eremita</i>	Lake Darner	12L0030	Dragonflies in mythology are mostly viewed as symbols and even today we see them on decor, books, and jewelry. In Japanese mythology, the dragonfly represent courage, strength, and happiness. In the Southern United States, the dragonfly has its own name the "snake doctor" from a folk belief that dragonflies follow snakes around and mend them back together if injured!
9	<i>Dissosteira carolina</i>	Carolina Grasshopper	25V0100	Grasshoppers were often used as golden jewelry in ancient Greece and symbolized purity within the Athenians. In Native American folklore, grasshoppers are often referred to as greedy or untrustworthy and it is believed that they will bite the noses of children who disobey their elders.
10	<i>Tympanophyllum sp.</i>	Katydid	30V0180	In Native American folklore this insect is mostly associated and used for love medicine by the Jicarilla Apache tribe!
11	<i>Photinus sp</i>	Firefly	45C0006	In Mayan texts, fireflies were used by Hunahpu and Xabalanque as lights for fake cigars to fool the xibalban sentries of the underworld.
12	<i>Hadrurus arizonensis</i>	Scorpion	1CA055V	In Greek mythology, Orion boasted that he would kill every animal on the earth. The goddess-hunter Artemis and her mother, Leto, dispatched a scorpion to kill Orion. Zeus put the scorpion in the heavens after it won the battle. Serket is an Egyptian goddess of protection associated with the scorpion. She was worshipped widely in Lower Egypt as a great Mother Goddess in the Predynastic Period (c. 6000-c. 3150 BCE) and so is among the older deities of Egypt
13	<i>Latrodectus hasselti</i>	Australian Black Widow	1FA052A	Throughout history, spiders have been depicted in popular culture, mythology and in symbolism. From Greek mythology to African folklore, the spider has been used to represent a variety of things, and endures into the present day with characters such as Shelob from The Lord of the Rings and Spider-Man from the eponymous comic series. It is also a symbol of mischief and malice for its toxic venom and the slow death it causes, which is often seen as a curse.
14	<i>Diaperomera femorata</i>	Northern Walkingstick	1V0012A	Stick insects (colloquially "phasmids") mythology is reflected in their nomenclature, which derives from the Greek for "phantom." In Māori mythology, the presence of stick insects—associated with the forest god Tāne indicated that one was traversing a holy site and when they landed on a woman, it was believed she was pregnant. Guillermo del Toro's film Pan's Labyrinth features a fairy who disguises itself in stick insect form.
15	<i>Ascalapha odorata</i>	Black Witch	5H0001	Black Witch Moths symbolize death in some cultures. In Mexico, they are known as "mariposa de la muerte," which translates to the butterfly of death. Some believe if a Black Witch Moth enters the home of someone who is ill, the person will die. A variation on this theme in the lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas region is that death only occurs if the moth flies in and visits all four corners of one's house.