Meet the Arthropod Keeper

Harry Jones



I'm a laboratory Technician, a sort of junior scientist. Most of the time, I manage care for the MEM Arthropod Zoo, keeping native and exotic bugs of all kinds to share with students and adults during field trips and public educational events.

Don't listen to the taxonomists, say bug. You're fine. Insect? Bug. Spider? Bug. Crab? Bug.



A bit about me!

I'm a staff member with the MEM, managing care for their Arthropod Zoo. I studied Biochemistry here at Mississippi State University before starting on full time with the museum.

Why Did I Choose Entomology?

I've been interested in insects for a long time, and college let me explore that interest through classes. I started working with the Arthropod Zoo, and found it very rewarding to get other people interested with live bugs that I care for.

Science Education

Working with live bugs, I get to introduce people of all ages to concepts in environmental science, biology, and ecology. Focusing on native bugs and their roles in different habitats also makes those places more real for people, helping draw support for habitat conservation and restoration.





I don't study any specific bugs, but my favorites have to be the giant walking sticks. These native insects can grow more than half a foot long, and clone themselves to reproduce when they don't mate in the wild.