

WELCOME TO JUNIOR PEST INVESTIGATORS!



Your child has embarked on an exciting learning adventure with a program called Junior Pest Investigators. This series of innovative lessons brings essential science concepts to life with real-world investigations. As Junior P.I.s, students will track down facts about ants, mosquitoes, ticks, spiders and other common pests. They will be introduced to the basics of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), identified by government, school and health agencies, and pest management professionals as the most effective way to prevent and manage pests — and the safest way when children are present.

WHY IPM?

In the past, pesticides were the first response to controlling pests: See a bug ... reach for the spray! Schools and homes need smarter solutions to pest problems, and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is the answer. In partnership with pest professionals, IPM teaches kids and adults how to pest-proof their spaces with “Go Green” solutions that reduce or eliminate the need for chemical solutions.

WHAT WILL YOUR CHILD LEARN WITH JUNIOR PEST INVESTIGATORS?

- **“Eek-ology: An Introduction to Pests,”** encourages students to go beyond the “eek-factor” of insects and other pests by discovering fascinating facts about diverse species that share our world.
- **“Habitat Hot Spots”** challenges students to discover why human habitats might be “hot spots” for pests.
- **“In Step with IPM”** explains the decision-making steps essential to responsibly preventing and managing pest problems, and offers simple sanitation practices to eliminate sources of food, water and hiding places for pests. Planning for pesticide safety is also an essential part of this lesson.
- **“It’s in Your Hands”** puts IPM into action. Students work together to celebrate their learning and keep IPM going at home and at school.

HOW CAN YOU HELP SUPPORT AND EXTEND YOUR CHILD’S LEARNING?

- Ask your child to share thoughts and discoveries about pest prevention and management techniques as we learn about them in school.
- Look for the **HOME In-PEST-igations** in your child’s backpack. These at-home activities provide a great opportunity to make important home-school connections. Work as a family to complete **In-PEST-igations**. Please return completed work so that we can celebrate and affirm students’ efforts to go green with IPM.
- Junior Pest Investigators is a call to action! As our school implements IPM to ensure the healthiest learning environment for kids, we invite you to adopt IPM at home too. Working together with IPM strategies, we can say “case closed” when it comes to pest threats.