



## ***Wee Creatures No. 3***

*J. G. Porter*



-: Cover :-

**Crab Spider**  
(*Misumena vatia*)

The White Crab Spider is so named because of its morphological adaptation to both crabs and spiders. It is classified as an arthropod as it has sense organs and distinguishable legs. Its bite is poisonous.

Britannia Parkway, Ottawa.

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<https://www.flickr.com/photos/86181924@N02>

In response to this series of Books of Wee Creature photos, my eldest niece, Janice Huntley, wrote the following essay describing 'small creature' projects undertaken over the years with her kindergarten students.

"I came to love insects as a kindergarten teacher. The children were fascinated by them and kept bringing them in. I found books and, together, we would identify their bugs and insects. I soon had a 'private' collection of bug books written for youngsters.

"As the children moved on through the grades, they continued to bring in interesting bugs to identify, and I soon became the school's bug, lizard, creature resident 'expert'. I had an assortment of critter containers so we could study the creatures during the day and then return them later to their natural habitats. I added all dead specimens to my bug exhibit, which, after 14 years, became an impressive collection.

"One day in April, a child brought in a small dead toad, which we put in a container. After a few hours in the warmth, it was 'miraculously' resurrected! It turned out to be just coming out of hibernation.

"That age group was so much fun to teach because they were so enthusiastic about everything and their enthusiasm became my passion. Although I don't like the invasive Japanese beetles, they are beautiful and would make lovely jewelry. While in Egypt last year, I bought a gold and pearl scarab beetle bracelet to add to my large collection of insect pins and necklaces.

"At Hallowe'en I wear nine glittery spider pins of various sizes - and get lots of comments!"

Thanks for sharing your passion, Gerry. Love Janice XX



**Green Bottle Fly** (*Lucilia sericata*)  
sharing the bounty with **Bumble Bee** (*Bombus apidae*)



**Assassin Bug**  
(*Zelus luridus*) (nymph)



**Tiger Crane Fly** - female  
(*Nephrotoma appendiculata*)



**Unknown**  
(*But Not Unappreciated*)



**Rosy Maple Moth** (*Dryocampa rubicunda*) In an Almonte meadow - left

**Japanese Beetle** (*Popillia japonica*)  
encased in a spider web - below



**Soldier Beetle** (*Chauliognathus*)

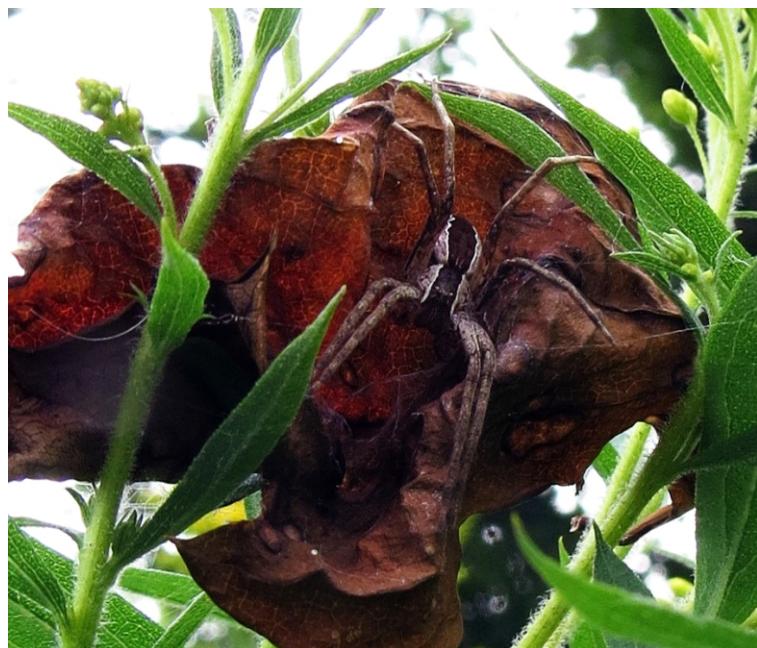


(Above)  
Ant foraging

(Left) I believe this is a **Meadow Spittle Bug** on its Spittlebug froth.  
(*Philaenus spumarius*)

**Nursery Web spider**  
(*Pisauridae*)

Well camouflaged.





**Cobweb**  
Ochre Pit  
Cove, NF

**Grey Squirrels** (*Sciurus carolinensis*)  
Britannia Park (up) and a local meadow (dwn)





**Gartersnake** (*Thamnophis elegans elegans*)  
Island Park Drive, Ottawa





### Wee Creature Duet

Up: **Bumble Bee**  
(*Bombus*)

Down: **Crab Spider**  
(*Misumena vatia*)

### Insect Trio

Right: **Japanese Beetle**  
(*Popillia japonica*)

Middle: Unknown

Left: **Carpenter Bee**  
(*Ceratina sp*)





**Crane Fly**  
(*nephrotoma appendiculata*)

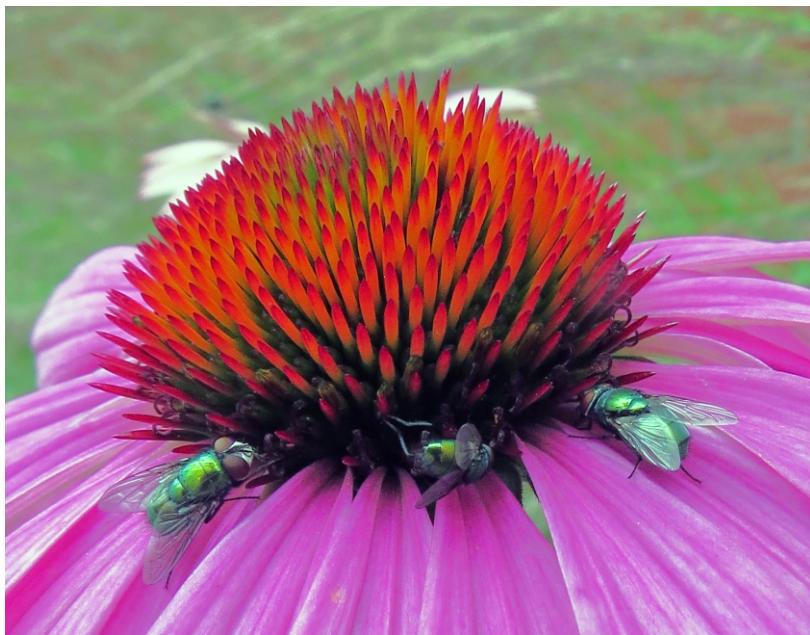
(Right) **Common Earwig**  
(*nephrotoma appendiculata*)  
Earwigs forage at night and sleep  
during the day - which is what  
this chap is doing.

(Below)  
Ant foraging





**Carpenter Bee**  
(*Ceratina* sp)



**Green Bottle Flies**  
(*Calliphoridae*  
*lucilia sericata*)