

The Beetle

Name: _____

One out of every four creatures on earth is a beetle. Beetles have a head, thorax, abdomen, and six legs. Their bodies are solid and tough.

They have chewing mouthparts and powerful jaws. Adult beetles have two pairs of wings.

The first pair of wings is small and very hard, and acts as a protective covering for the second pair of wings.

Many beetles can fly with their second pair of wings. Most adult beetles are brown or black, but some are very brightly coloured.

Beetles can cause a lot of damage because they eat our food, crops and they damage trees.

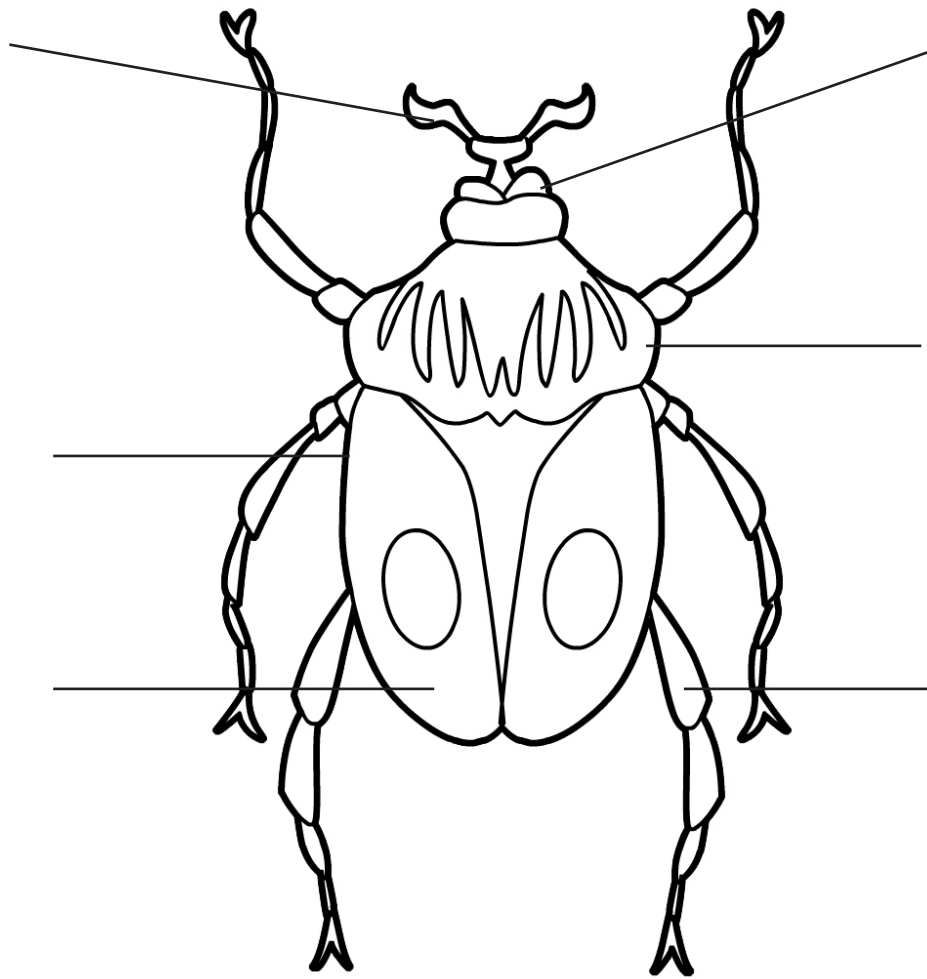
They also help us by getting rid of waste and breaking down dead trees.

1. Use the words in the word bank to label the parts of the beetle and complete the sentences on the next page.
2. Fill in the missing words

WORD BANK

abdomen	four	hard	legs
head	Dung	thorax	
Goliath	antennae	pests	wings
	round/oval	three	

The Beetle



A beetle has a head, a thorax and an _____. It has a _____ shaped body. Its body feels _____.

It also has _____ wings and _____ pairs of legs. The wings and legs of all insects are attached to the _____.

Most beetles eat plant parts such as leaves, seeds, fruit or wood. Two well-known beetles are the _____ Beetle and the _____ Beetle.

Beetles are often thought of as _____ but they can also help our ecosystem.