



LEVELED BOOK • G

Meet the Beetles

Written by Anthony Curran

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Focus Question

Why are beetles amazing insects?

Words to Know

beetles

deserts

insects

jungles

skeleton

waste

Cover: A collection of beetles from around the world is displayed in the Oxford University Museum of Natural History in Oxford, England.

Title page: A true weevil or snout beetle takes a break from feeding on a plant.

Beetles Shown in this Book

- Page 3: greater bombardier beetle
- Page 5: (top) frog-legged leaf beetle; (bottom) rhinoceros beetle
- Page 6: (top left) target tortoise beetle; (top right) Hercules beetle; (bottom left) jewel beetle; (bottom right) dogbane beetle
- Page 7: (top) stag beetle; (bottom) tok tokkie beetle
- Page 12: (top left) majestic beetle; (top right) leaf beetle; (middle left) fungus beetle; (middle right) metallic wood-boring beetle; (bottom left) giraffe weevil; (bottom right) ground beetle

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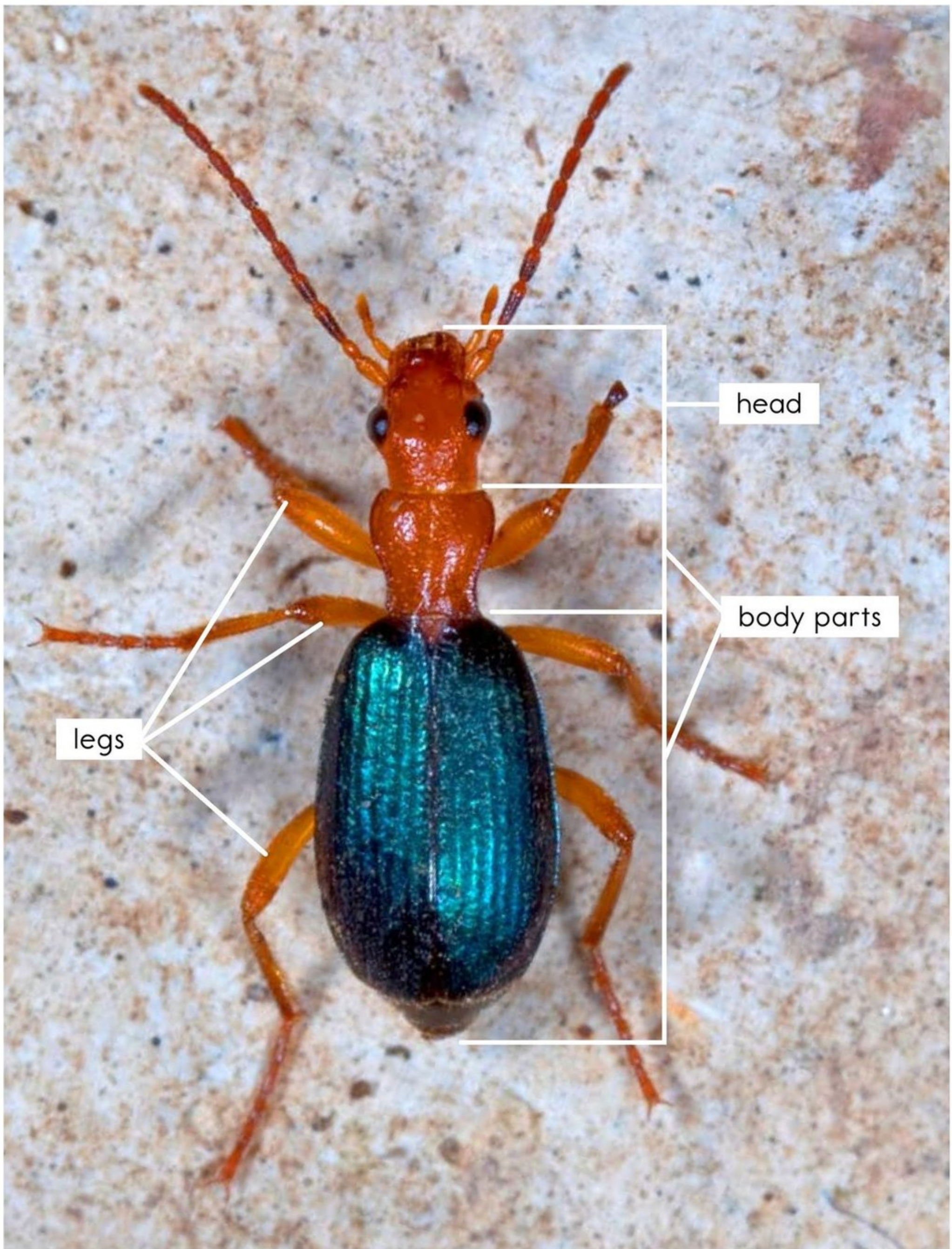
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Beetles are amazing insects.
Like other insects, beetles have
three main body parts.



Ladybugs (also known as ladybirds) are a very common type of beetle.

Most beetles have two pairs of wings.

The front wings are hard and thick to protect the pair underneath.



All beetles have a hard skeleton on the outside of their bodies.
The skeleton protects the beetles.



There are many different kinds of beetles.

There are more kinds of beetles than any other living thing.



Beetles can live almost
anywhere.

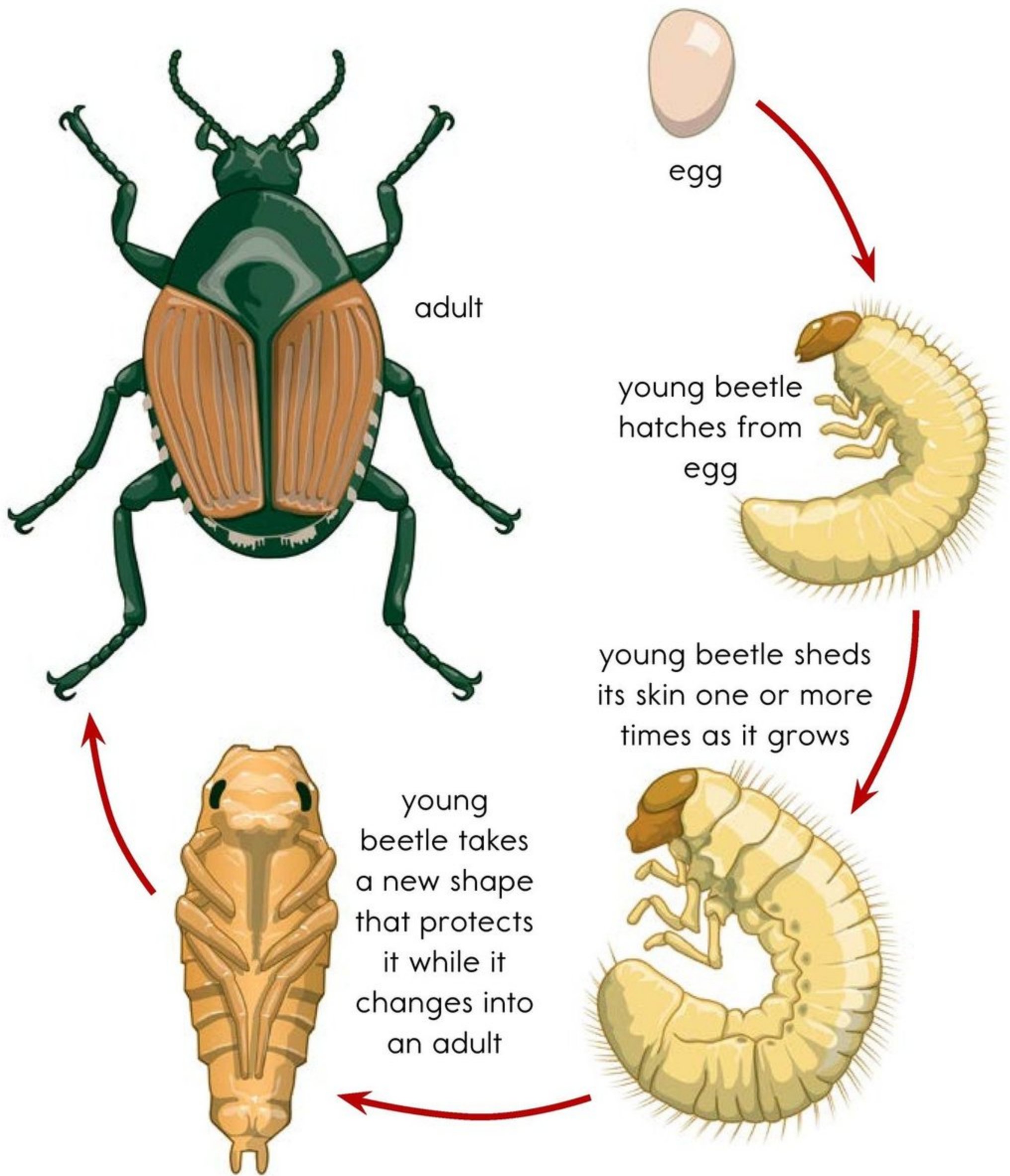
Beetles can live in forests.

Beetles can live in deserts.



A jewel beetle (top) rests on a leaf in a jungle. A great diving beetle (bottom) swims underwater.

Beetles can live in jungles.
Beetles can even live in
and around water.



Beetles change several times as they grow. Each time they change, they look very different.



A ground beetle (top) feeds on dead leaves. A burying beetle (bottom) feeds on a dead squirrel.

Beetles eat many different things.

Some beetles eat dead plants and animals.



Dung beetles (top) work together to roll a ball of animal waste. A red milkweed beetle (bottom) feeds on a milkweed plant.

Some beetles eat animal waste.

Some beetles eat plants.

Some beetles eat other insects.



Beetles are amazing insects!



Meet the Beetles

A Reading A-Z Level G Leveled Book

Word Count: 140

Connections

Writing and Art

Choose two beetles from the book.

Write about how they are the same and different.

Science

Make a poster showing the life cycle of a beetle.

Label each step of the cycle.

Use information from the book.

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