

# Pelican Pete's Backyard Adventures™

Nature Discoveries and Outdoor Fun

## Bug Bit

## DID YOU KNOW?

**S**ome plants eat insects! Meat-eating (carnivorous) plants live in poor soil conditions and need the extra nutrients that insects provide.

Specially shaped leaves serve as traps. Among them are the pitcher plant's leaves that curl to form deep pitfall traps and the venus flytrap's lobed leaves that snap shut over their prey.

Once an insect is caught, digestive juices produced by the plant, or bacteria, help dissolve it. Some plants also produce antiseptic enzymes to keep their meat fresh!



**PELICAN PETE**  
Helping Children and Nature Meet

## GET OUTDOORS!

**H**ow do plants in your yard and neighborhood attract insects? With colorful flowers? Sweet nectar? Leaves that support eggs, cocoons, or webs? How do you know? Watch and note what you see.

Can you catch a fly? Be sure it's not a bee or wasp that can sting! Once caught, release the fly unharmed.

Play Fast Fly! Choose one player to be Plant. Remaining players are flies. Plant stands surrounded by several objects such as pinecones. Flies race past Plant and try to pick up an object without getting tagged. Take turns being Plant.

*Where we live the soil is poor,  
So finding food can be a chore.  
To keep us healthy—keep us fit,  
We gobble up a sweet bug bit!*

