

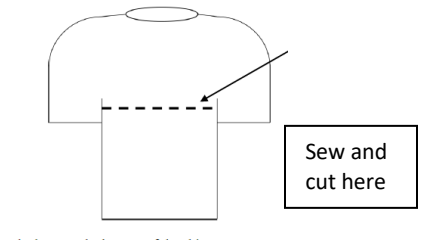
Resources

Directions to Make a Sweep Net for Capturing Terrestrial Insects

A sweep net can be used to collect insects in tall grass along a fence or in a field. These instructions are for making a sweep net from a large white t-shirt and a coat hanger.

SUPPLIES NEEDED (for each sweep net):

- 1 old, youth large white t-shirt (shirt should not have any holes)
- 1 wire coat hanger
- 1 pair of pliers to open and bend the coat hanger
- 1 large sewing needle
- Heavy duty thread for sewing
- Duct tape



DIRECTIONS:

1. With needle and thread, sew tight, close running stitches across the shirt just below armpits (see picture). Cut off the arm and neck section just above your stitching and this will give you what looks like a bag. Make sure your sewing is tight enough that small insects cannot fall or crawl through.
2. Make a small cut in the hem on the bottom of the shirt.
3. Unbend the coat hanger.
4. Thread the coat hanger through the hem.
5. When the coat hanger is threaded through the entire hem of the shirt, re-twist the ends together. This will become the handle of your sweep net.
6. Cover the end of the wire coat hanger that is now the handle with duct tape to cover any sharp edges.
7. To use, sweep the net through tall grass or weeds to collect insects. Take a look inside and you will see what you caught easily against the white background of the shirt.

Directions for Making a Seed Wand for Collecting Seeds

A seed wand allows students to collect a variety of seeds that are found along edges of fields. Not all types of seeds can be collected this way, but for small seeds or seeds that are out of reach, it is the easiest method. You will need a pair of tweezers and a small container to put the seeds in once collected.

SUPPLIES NEEDED (for each wand):

- Microfiber cleaning cloth
- Rubber bands
- Dowel or found stick about 2-3 feet long

DIRECTIONS:

1. Wrap the microfiber cloth around one end of the dowel or stick.
2. Secure with rubber bands.
3. Wave the wand through tall weeds or grasses.
4. Remove seeds with a pair of tweezers and sort according to type.

Two-Way Viewers

These are great for viewing small land and aquatic critters from two directions. Around \$10. Can be found in many places on the web.



Bug Boxes with Magnifiers (many websites)



Bare Books

Super inexpensive, blank journals for children to decorate inside and out. Lots of different layouts and page amounts. They also have blank puzzles and game boards!

<https://www.barebooks.com/>

