

# Brackin- There Are Nasty Mosquitoes in MY Back Yard!! A lab

## Proposal

### There Are Nasty Mosquitoes in MY Back Yard!! A lab

David Brackin

Orlando, FL 32825

#### Abstract:

Florida is home to 80 species of mosquito, from the *Toxonhynch rutilus* that feeds only on plants to *Aedes aegypti* that causes yellow fever and dengue. Only three of those mosquitoes carry human pathogens. "Mosquito surveillance is a prerequisite to an effective, efficient, and environmentally sound mosquito control program" according to DR. Dennis Moore and Charles Morris, in their article in "Mosquito Habitat Inventory." This activity will facilitate student identifying mosquitoes as vectors for transmitting EEC, SLE, and dengue. It will also help students identify male and female mosquitoes and the student understanding that only females bite.

#### Rational:

Middle School students, along with most of the other general population, see mosquitoes as pests that cause a painful "bite." This activity will increase the students knowledge of the dangers of mosquitoes to humans and animals in Florida.

#### Description:

Mosquito larva will be collected from buckets and pipette from Bromeliads and then raised in mosquito breeders to adulthood. During the metamorphosis from larva to adult the mosquitoes will be observed for change and students will draw what is observed in their lab book. Five minutes will be devoted to these drawing daily.

Once the adults die their bodies will be placed in a Petri dish for observation with a hand lens. Using the mosquito identification booklet students will identify 5 mosquitoes.

Scientific name

Common name

Habitat used for reproduction

Feeding time of day

Feeding host

Medical importance

Sex

Data Collection

Data collection will include teacher observation to insure proper lab procedures and a written assessment.

## Brackin- There Are Nasty Mosquitoes in MY Back Yard!! A lab

ICORE summer institute elements included:

Insect vectors and Florida Public Health by Dr Roxanne Connelly lecture/video/ Florida Mosquito Control 2009, Common Mosquito Identification booklet published by UF.

Literature:

Florida Mosquito Control 2009: Control Through Source Reduction p29; Intergraded Mosquito Surveillance p28, Common Mosquito Identification.

Budget: \$200

Item	cost
Mosquito breeders	2x40= 80
Mosquito poster life cycle	1x20= 20
Pipettes	1x30=30
Mosquito traps	2x30= 60
Petri dishes	1x10= 10