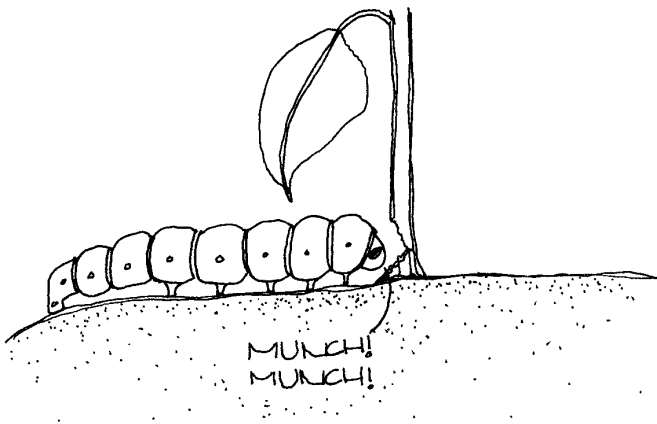


Garden Pests and Problems: How do Insects Hurt Plants?

Insects can hurt or damage plants in different ways, but damage is most often by:

1. **Chewing:** The insect eats holes in the leaves, roots, bark, stems, or seeds of the plant. Caterpillars, beetles and grasshoppers are some of the insects that cause chewing damage.



2. **Sucking:** Some insects suck plant juices from the leaves, stems, or fruit of the plant. Aphids, leafhoppers, scales, and mealybugs are some of the insects that cause sucking damage.

One of the best ways to get rid of insects from your garden (especially caterpillars and beetles) is to **pick** them off and **throw** them into the garbage. You can make a game out of this by seeing who can collect the most insects!

Have you noticed chewing or sucking insect damage on plants before? _____
Try to find an example of each kind of damage and draw a picture of what it looks like here.