

Cross-Curricular and After-School/Summer Connections

The inquiry-based lessons in this unit are all designed to address core subject areas including **Science, Math, and Language Arts**. The following are supplemental suggestions that will help your students “think ALB” each day.



Morning Meeting:

Set aside time each morning to ask students about the results of their ALB searching on the previous day. Have them also share any new ALB information they've learned from books, newspaper articles, television, radio, or Web stories and add it to the Wanted Wall. (See “Intro Lesson: Beetle Busters—Report for Duty!” for more about the Wanted Wall.)

Calendar Work:

Create a “Search for Signs” icon for the winter and spring when adult ALBs are not active, and a “Search for ALBs & Signs” icon for summer and fall when adult ALBs emerge from trees. Have students place the appropriate icon on your class’s daily calendar, and make searching part of your class routine!



Music:

As a class, create a short, rhyming song that highlights the unique characteristics of the ALB. You may want to include movement with the song to help students remember the distinctive parts of the ALB; for example, raising arms above their heads could represent long antennae. Stream the song on your school’s Web site, or make a music video!

Physical Education/Sports/Recess:

Before, during, or after physical activity, have an “ALB break” to check for ALBs and signs of ALB activity. Bring a camera to document sightings and signs, along with jars to capture live beetles (and freeze them for later identification). Report any ALB sightings or signs of ALBs using the USDA Reporting Form (www.AsianLonghornedBeetle.com/report-your-ALB-sightings.php).

Field Trips:

Visit your local science museum to talk to experts about the ALB, and see how they are working to stop the beetle.

Service Learning:

Have students write a story (individually or as a class) about a Beetle Buster boy or girl who saves the day by eradicating ALBs from his/her neighborhood. Have students share their Beetle Buster stories with younger elementary students and engage in peer-to-peer discussions about the importance of trees and the eradication of the ALB.

Art:

Have students design Beetle Busters T-shirts to wear when they search for the ALB!

Vacations:

The summer and other school breaks are the perfect times for students to look for the ALB (and signs of the ALB) far from their own backyards.

