

Beetles in the Verde Valley

1. (Scarab) The **Glorious Scarab** *Chrysina gloriosa*
2. (Scarab) The **Goldsmith Scarab** *Catalpa lanigera*
3. (Scarab) The **Rhinoceros Beetle** *Xyloryces jamaicensis*
4. (Scarab) The **Southwestern Hercules Beetle** *Dynastes granti* Male with large horn.
5. (Scarab) The **Ten Lined June Beetle** *Polyphyla decemlineata* Male with large antennae.
6. (Longhorn) **Horned Prionus** *Prionus* species
Below the beetle is the chamber made by the feeding larva.
7. (Longhorn) **Longhorn** species exiting from wood
8. (Stag Beetle) **Cottonwood Stag Beetle** *Lucanus mazama*
9. (Blister Beetle) Family **Meloidae**
10. (Click Beetle) Family **Elataridae**
11. (Darkling) **Stink Beetle** *Eleodes obscurus*

Beetles

The beetles in this display are from Sedona and are in the insect order Coleoptera.

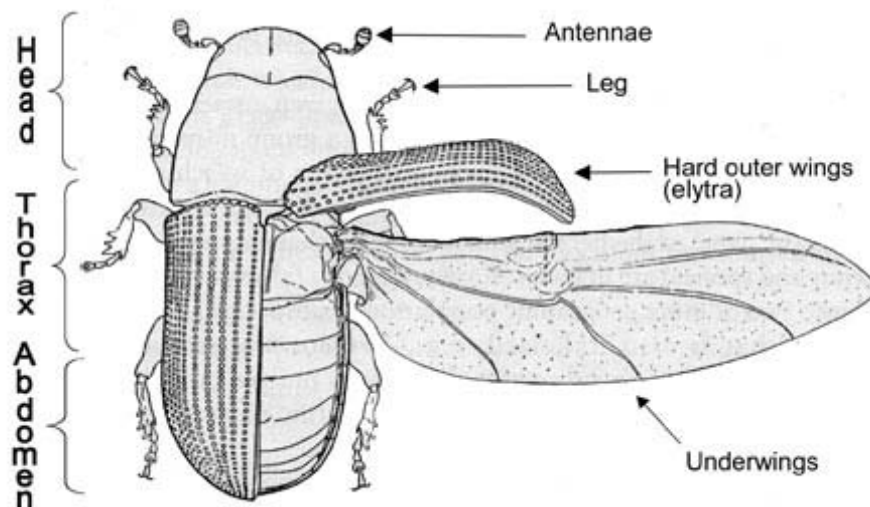
Beetles are distinguished from other insects by their modified fore-wings called elytra (e-ly-tra). The elytra are hardened structures that protect the soft body of the beetle and its hind wings, that are used for flight.

There are over 350,000 species of beetles in the world and they live in a wide range of habitats, from deserts to lakes/streams, and from high in the mountains to the beaches of the oceans.

Beetles have complete metamorphosis that includes three distinct stages after egg hatch; a larva, pupa, and the adult. What other insects also have these same stages? (See answer at the bottom)

Beetle larvae may live in:

- soil eating debris and roots (scarabs, click and ground beetles);
- bore tunnels and consume old (longhorn and Jewel beetles) or living wood (bark beetles);
- are aggressive predators (lady bugs and tiger beetle larvae);
- feed on stored grains (weevils);
- old fruit (fruit beetles);
- in dung (scarabs);
- and various other places since some beetles are very specialized in their larval feeding habits.



Answer: butterflies and moths, bees, wasps, and ants, flies, and ant lions.