

Video Transcript - Collecting Motile Biocube Specimens

- Nathan Irwin: There's a lot going on in here and we could take a Biocube and put it right down in there and collect things.
- Liittschwager: What we want to do is start counting and listing, we see a bumble bee coming up.
- Speaker 3: There's a fly going through it.
- Liittschwager: And there are other things. There are some things that are just going to zoom through it. So lots of things move through it, and the species count is just going to keep going up, the more time we spend watching. [00:00:30] And then what we do is kind of make a list, and so rather than disturbing that thing constantly, we see that bee, and he leaves and flies through over to here, then we just get him with the net. And a lot of times, I find that you really don't want to be too timid. You have to be decisive, a certain kind of forward confidence is very useful.
- Nathan Irwin: Down you go quickly, let it fly up. Okay you got [00:01:00] it, close it, close it, close it, close it. There you go.
- Speaker 4: Nope. I got it. I turned it the wrong way
- Nathan Irwin: There you go. Okay. All right.
- Nathan Irwin: So one thing you can do is take a container like this, whether it's large or small, and you can then sneak up. There's some ... Oooh, in fact, there are several ants here on this leaf surface. So I am just gonna [00:01:30] take this container here, you can see how I've trapped the ant, and now I am going to try and ... there it goes. It just climbed up in to the vial. And there, we have an ant species.
- Nathan Irwin: Okay, why don't you grab a container, and see if you can get that ladybug.
- Nathan Irwin: Bravo, very good. [00:02:00] So let's see if we can try using this. This is an aspirator. A "pooter" is another name for it. So all I do is suck in and I just inhale using this. So go ahead and try and collect another one of the ants that are crawling up and down on these milkweed plants.
- Liittschwager: Got it? Very good.
- Liittschwager: So we'll go and look, we see some more ants there, there was a slug, there were some roly-polies [00:02:30] but what we're looking for is the place with the most.
- Speaker 5: [laughter] Oooh!

Liittschwager: I mean look at all that. This guy is pretty clean.

Speaker 5: This guy, alright let's get him, maybe I should grab him.

Liittschwager: Don't miss the snail we want him too.

Speaker 5: Let's see if I ...

Liittschwager: You got him?

Speaker 5: Yeah should I go ahead and put him in?

Liittschwager: Go ahead and knock him off in there.

Speaker 5: He's got some dirt around.

Liittschwager: That's a little tiny snail. [00:03:00] Collecting motile specimens, the creatures that move through your cube.

Liittschwager: For birds, small mammals, reptiles, or amphibians, you may be able to ID the species and add them to your list from a picture or description.

Liittschwager: Personal safety, some spiders bite, and remember your sunscreen.

Liittschwager: Many creatures are fragile, try to keep all the parts and leave the dirt behind. Have good tools ready: vials, something [00:03:30] to put your creatures in, a small brush, soft tweezers, insect net.

Liittschwager: Minimize damage.