Explore the science of what’s biting you!

Learn about mosquitoes, fleas, ticks, leeches, and other bloodsucking parasites in this skin-crawling exhibition. Through 12 icky exhibits, guests learn the what, why, who, and when, of how parasites live, work, and play.

*Attack of the Bloodsuckers!* was developed by the Environmental Exhibit Collaborative (EEC) and funded by Jane’s Trust, Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), and the Cabot Family Charitable Trust.

**Sharon Smallwood**  
Traveling Exhibitions Manager

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**RENTAL FEE:**  
$20,000

**SIZE:**  
1,500 - 2,000 sf

**SHIPPING:**  
Inbound only | 1 truck  
Accompanied by technical manual, educational materials, and marketing kit
Exhibit Components

**Scenic Walls**
Cartoon walls show giant parasites invading! Kids and pets watch out for parachuting ticks and fleas in the house and yard!

**Photo Gallery**
Art and science merge in supermagnified bloodsuckers! Photomicrographer Dennis Kunkel shows their beauty up close.

**Mosquito Cockpit**
You’re a mosquito itching for a bite. Track down your next meal!

- **Carbon Dioxide Detector**
  Measure CO₂ in your breath. Mosquitoes follow this gas trail to locate a succulent target.

- **Breathing Mist**
  See the mist from a target’s breath. A mosquito can sense wisps of breath up to 1/2 mile away!

- **Moving Target**
  Turn the dial. Like a mosquito, you can see an object more easily when it moves. Test how images look with a mosquito’s compound eyes.

- **Do Mosquitoes Like Smelly Feet?**
  Do mosquitoes love you? Do your feet smell? Add your dot to the graph. Scientists collect this data to build better mosquito traps!

- **How Do You React?**
  Do you get big red itchy bumps or no reaction at all? Add your data to this graph to see how you compare.

- **Feel for Heat**
  Use temperature to find a hot meal! Aim a heat detector to find where your friend’s arm is hidden—even through clothing. Ready?... Steady?... GOTCHA!

**Tool Time**
Probe like a mosquito! Find a vein in an arm. Get close-ups of a mosquito’s proboscis (tube-mouth). See slicing jaws and suction-cup mouths that parasites use to eat blood meals.

**WentzScopes**
Take a close look at suckers that give some of us the CREEPS! Magnify a louse, flea, bed bug, tick, and mosquito.

**Suckers Talk Back**
Bloodsuckers plead for their lives! Tick, Mosquito, Leech, and Black Fly explain their importance in the natural world.

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**Inflatable Tick**
Meet Ms. Philippa Tick! Sit in her lap... Yum, Yum! You’re her next meal! As her body inflates, she’ll “grow” on you! Fun photo op!

**Matching Game**
Match the Gruesome Twosomes! There’s a twist—one picture in each pair shows a zoomed-in part of the animal.

**TwITCHer**
Spin the dial—right hand on the head louse! Play TwITCHer, a multi-user game that will have you twisted into knots!

**Mosquito Life Cycle**
Spin forward or backward through a mosquito’s life cycle, from a wriggling larva that breathes out its rear-end, to an adult crawling out of its pupal shell.

**Suckers from Around the World**
Weird suckers live all over the world! Learn about vampire bats, moths, fish, sea lamprey, and a tag-team pair of bird species from the Galapagos.

**Live Mosquitoes**
Spend time with live mosquitoes—SAFELY contained in escape-proof tubes! Watch mosquitoes in three stages of life perform their miniature water ballets.

**Live Leeches**
Which end bites? With suction cups at each end and a flexible flatworm body, a leech can undulate like an inch-worm, swim like a whale, or hang in the tank.