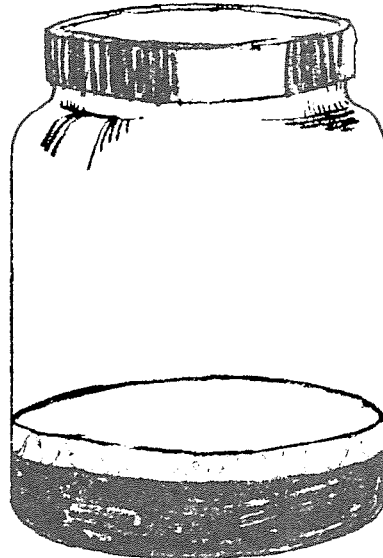


Relaxing Dry Specimens

Sometimes insects get too dry and become hard and brittle for mounting. Butterflies and moths are good examples of this. Body parts easily break when you are trying to pin for mounting. They should first be placed on a piece of cardboard in a moist wide-mouthed jar or can with a tight lid. It usually takes several hours (12 to 24) for most insects to relax. Check the specimens occasionally to keep the insect from becoming too wet or too soft.

Relaxing Jar

Cardboard
Moist Sand



You'll need:

- ▼ Wide-mouth jar or can (gallon pickle jar).
- ▼ Sand.
- ▼ Naphthalene flakes (moth flakes).
- ▼ Cardboard.

What to do:

Pour one inch of sand in the bottom of the jar or can and moisten with water.

Add a few pinches of naphthalene flakes to prevent mold.

Cut a piece of cardboard and fit tightly over sand.