

Firefly Communication Testing

- There will be five rounds. Each round will consist of three counts of 10 on the metronome. The first count of ten will just be to “get ready.”
- When the “one” comes up again, male fireflies will start their pattern. Females will watch and attempt to turn toward the correct male and flash back. Repeat this for the third count of ten.
- During each round, females will stay in place, and may only turn toward males.
- Males may move around to get a better look (but must stay on their side of the room).
- The Tester will carry and operate the firefly.
- The Organizer should walk with the Tester and hold the flash pattern card up for the Tester to see.
- The Recorder and Speaker should take responsibility for watching carefully to try to identify a match.
- No one may speak during any round!
- After each round, groups may huddle together on the sides of the room and quietly discuss which fireflies they think may or may not be a match.
- If you disagree, wait for another round until everyone agrees.
- As soon as groups are sure which firefly is their match, they may write the ID (e.g. Male A, or Female 3), and the round number during which they decided, on their index card, and put it into their manila envelope. They should also put their Flash Pattern card (with species name on it) in the envelope, and then seal it.
- Everyone still participates in every round, even if they have already made their decision.

