

THE MAD SCIENTIST'S CLUB: SCIENTIST PROFILE

COLD CRITTER EXPERT

DR. RICK LEE

DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY AT MIAMI UNIVERSITY, OHIO

He's finding out how insects, frogs and turtles survive extreme cold including some that can survive freezing.



Job Description

Rick Lee is a biologist who is interested in CRYOBIOLOGY (the study of how plants and animals live in the cold). In the winter, he travels to Antarctica, where he researches how bugs survive cold and severe weather. His findings may help develop ways to freeze transplant organs such as hearts and livers to help them last longer for people who need organ transplants. In the summer, he takes students out West to Wyoming and Montana to experience science first-hand.

Biography

When Rick Lee was a boy, he loved to play outside. His favorite things to study were biology and nature. He collected insects, leaves, and shells.

In school, he was a good student who learned mostly by reading books. He knew he wanted to be a scientist after college. Instead of teaching high school biology and coaching as he'd planned, he ended up teaching college students and doing research in the Department of Zoology at Miami University.

Dr. Rick's advice for young scientists:

"Develop strong skills in speaking, writing and reading. Be prepared to work hard to achieve your goals."

For more information about Dr. Rick's work, click on:

<http://www.units.muohio.edu/cryolab/projects/VertCryobiology.htm>