

Types of Insects

A. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: colony antennae thorax exoskeleton caterpillar

1. An insect's body is divided into the head, _____, and abdomen.
2. Insects have a pair of _____ on their head to feel and smell.
3. A _____ will one day turn into a beautiful butterfly.
4. Ants live and work together in a large group called a _____.
5. The hard, outer covering of an insect is called an _____.

B. Match the Following;

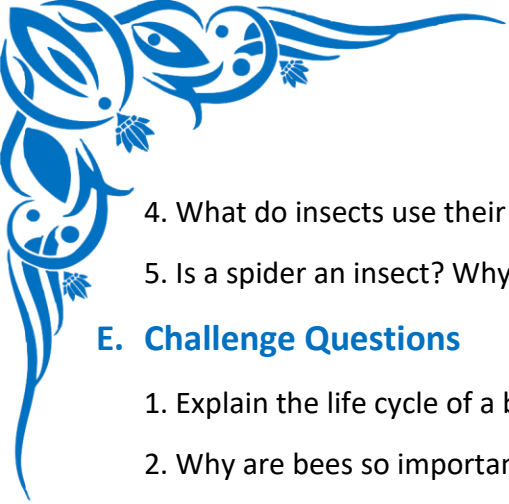
Column A (Insect)	Column B (Description)
1. Bee	A. Jumps with powerful back legs.
2. Ant	B. Bites people and can spread disease.
3. Grasshopper	C. Lives in a colony and marches in a line.
4. Butterfly	D. Makes honey and pollinates flowers.
5. Mosquito	E. Starts as a caterpillar.

C. Practice Problems

1. Name one insect that is helpful to humans or plants.
2. Name one insect that can be a pest to humans.
3. An insect has a hard, spotted shell (often red and black) and helps gardeners by eating aphids. What is it?
4. What insect starts its life as a caterpillar?
5. Some insects, like moths, are nocturnal. What does "nocturnal" mean?

D. Warm-up Questions

1. How many legs do all insects have?
2. Name one insect that can fly.
3. What are the three main body parts of an insect?



4. What do insects use their antennae for?
5. Is a spider an insect? Why or why not?

E. Challenge Questions

1. Explain the life cycle of a butterfly in three simple steps.
2. Why are bees so important for growing fruits like apples and strawberries?
3. Some insects use camouflage to blend in with their surroundings (like a stick insect). Why is this a useful skill?
4. Termites are insects that eat wood. Explain one way they can be harmful and one way they can be helpful in nature. Harmful: _____ Helpful: _____
5. If you discover a new creature, what three things would you check to decide if it is an insect?

F. Word Problems & Application

1. Maria has a rose garden, but tiny green bugs called aphids are eating the leaves. She releases a different type of insect that loves to eat aphids. What helpful insect did she likely use?
2. Tom is on a picnic and leaves his sandwich on the blanket. Soon, a line of tiny black creatures is marching towards it. They work together to carry crumbs back to their home. What are these insects?
3. A scientist is exploring a cave and finds a creature with 8 legs and 2 body parts. The scientist's partner asks, "Is it a new type of insect?" What should the scientist say?
4. While camping, Sarah's family hears a buzzing sound. They get itchy bites on their arms. What insect is likely bothering them, and what could they do to protect themselves? Insect: _____ Protection: _____.
5. A caterpillar is munching on a milkweed leaf. It is storing up energy for a big change. What will it change into?

G. True or False

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| 1. All insects can fly. | _____ |
| 2. A spider is a type of insect. | _____ |
| 3. Insects have 4 main body parts. | _____ |
| 4. A ladybug is considered a helpful insect. | _____ |
| 5. Mosquitoes help pollinate flowers. | _____ |