

Life Science Stories



Insects

Story by Andrew Frinkle



Insects are a kind of animal. Insects are also known as bugs. Insects can be found all over the world. Crickets, ants, grasshoppers, butterflies, ladybugs, and bees are some common insects.

Insects are invertebrates, so they do not have backbones. They have exoskeletons. This means they have their bones on the outside, like a shell. That makes them similar to crustaceans. Some insects, like butterflies, can change as they grow.



Insects always have six legs. If something has eight legs, like a spider, it is not an insect. Insects usually have three body segments. The head is where the eyes, mouth, and brains are. The thorax is where the legs and wings connect. The abdomen is where the guts and organs are.

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NAME:

Insects

1. Insects are also known as _____ .

- (A) worms (B) bugs (C) monsters (D) fairies

2. Which of these is an insect?

- (A) ladybug (B) rat (C) fish (D) spider

3. How many legs do insects have?

- (A) 2 (B) 4 (C) 6 (D) 8

4. DEFINITION: a skeleton (bones) outside the body

- (A) abdomen (B) exoskeleton (C) head (D) thorax

5. The thorax is where the wings and legs connect.

- (A) True (B) False

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ANSWER KEY

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