

Crawly Critters

Let's Learn about Spiders!

There are 2 different types of insects. There are those that are **beneficial** and help us. Then there are those that are **pests** and cause damage. Spiders are also helpful but they are not insects, instead we call spiders arachnids!

They catch and eat many of the insects we consider pests, like flies and beetles.



Many spiders will spin a web made from silk which is how they catch their dinner.

Their bodies are covered with little hairs. These little hairs are very sensitive and help the spider know what is going on around them.

Most spiders are harmless, but some are very dangerous, so it's best to leave them alone!

Spiders do not have all of the parts that you learned an insect must have.

Let's Compare !

How Many Body Parts	Insects	Spiders
Body Segments	3	2
Legs	6	8
Antennae	2	0
Mouth	4 different types	Jaws with fangs
Eyes	2 compound eyes 3 simple eyes	Most have 8
Wings	0, 2, or 4	0

Use What You've Learned

Are all crawly critters Insects?

There are several things that an insect must have to be an insect...

1. They have 3 body parts : The Head, Thorax and Abdomen
2. They have 6 legs
3. They usually have antennae
4. They usually have wings

Look at the 2 Crawly Critters below, are they insects or not??

Circle the correct answer.

GRASSHOPPER

SPIDER



YES

NO

YES

NO

Why is a spider NOT an insect?



Career Corner



Entomologist - Entomologists study the behaviors, populations, ecology, and life cycles of insects. Their research helps Pest Control Officers do their job and promotes a better understanding of helpful insects like honeybees and butterflies.

How Entomologists Benefit Agriculture:

- Study how bugs spread diseases to crops
- Find the 'good' insects in agriculture

Entomologists Study:

- Geography
- Biology



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Insect Trivia



- There are more than 20,000 different bee species around the world.
- Ants lay a chemical trail, called pheromone, when they find food so other ants can find their way from the nest to the food source.
- There are more than 900,000 known species of insects in the world.

Lets Make Marshmallow Spiders!

Ingredients:

- Large marshmallows
- Mini M&M's
- Pretzel sticks
- Chocolate syrup



Directions:

- Hold your Marshmallow and push 4 pretzels into each side of the marshmallow for the legs.
- Pour the chocolate syrup all over the marshmallow to make it Black.
- Add 2 mini M&M's on the top of the marshmallow for the eyes.
- Now you can eat your spider!



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