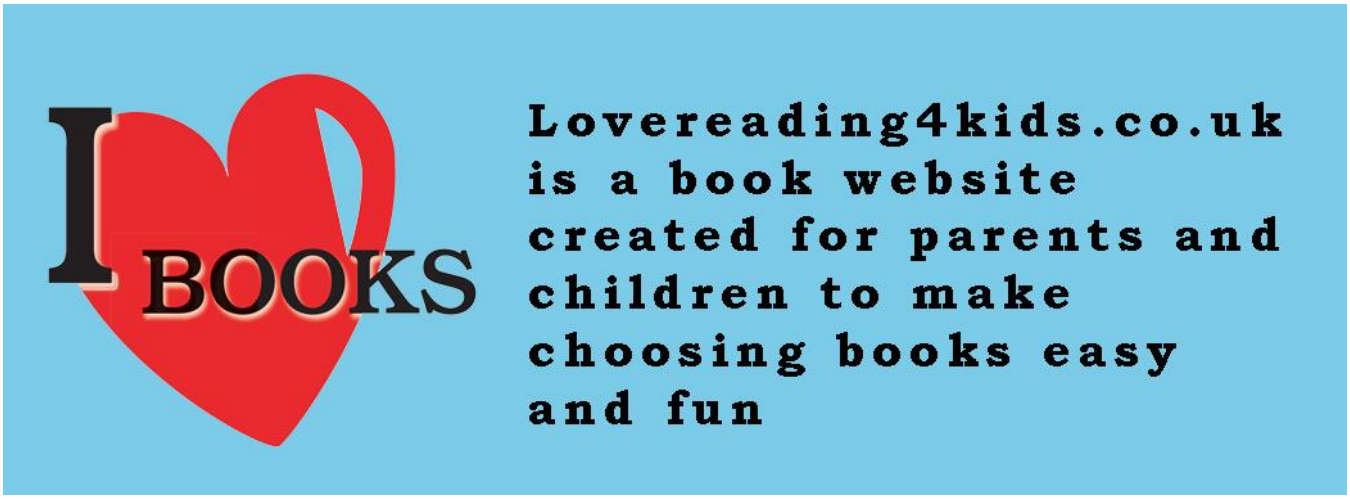


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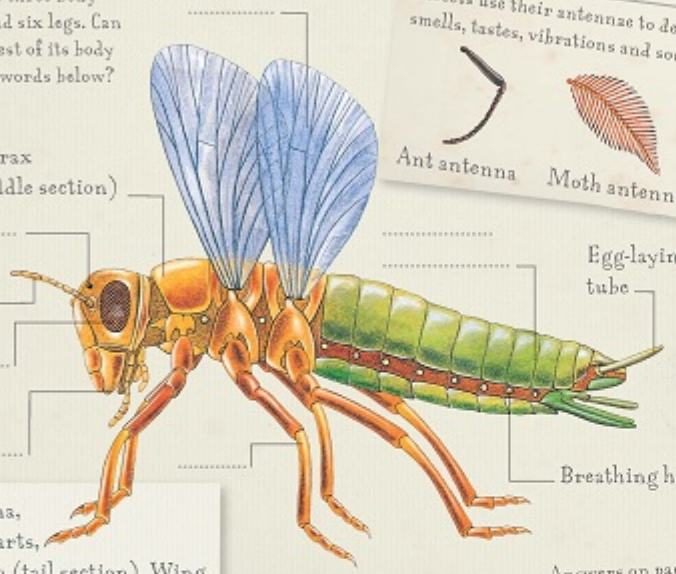
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Insects up close

An insect has three body sections and six legs. Can you label the rest of its body parts with the words below?



Head, Antenna, Eye, Mouthparts, Leg, Abdomen (tail section), Wing

Antennae

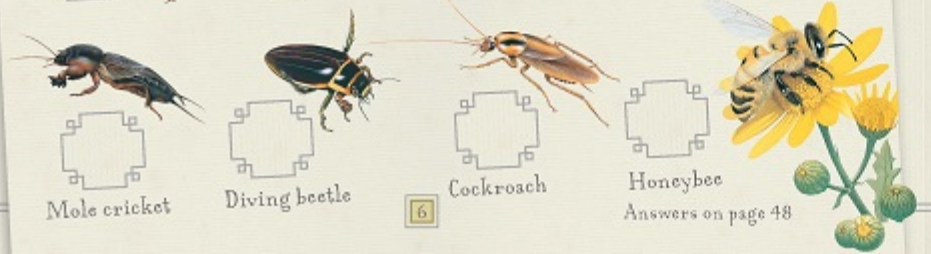
Insects use their antennae to detect smells, tastes, vibrations and sounds.

Answers on page 48

Legs

Some insect legs are designed for jumping. Others are better for running, swimming, digging or gathering pollen. Can you match these legs to the right insects?



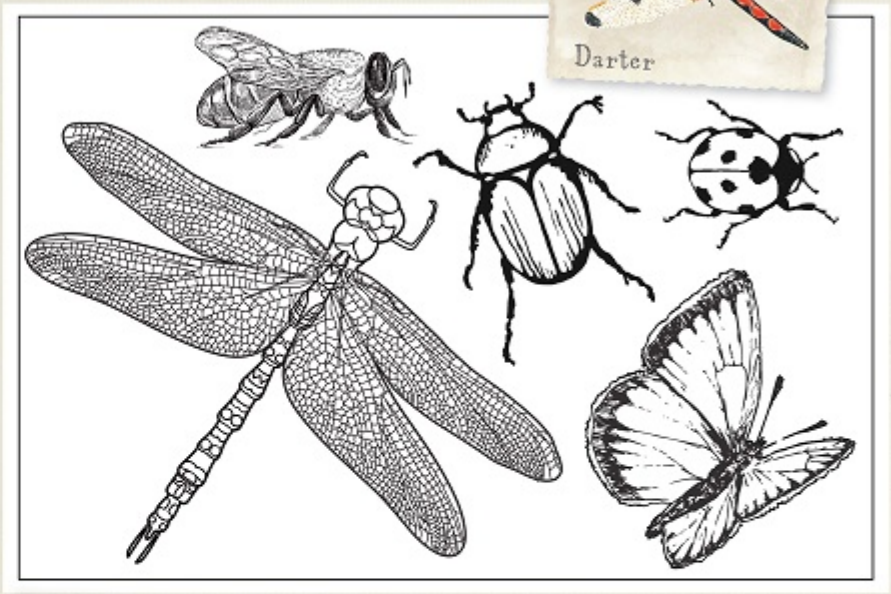


Answers on page 48

Bright colours

Lots of insects are brightly coloured. This can be to attract a mate or to warn predators that they are poisonous. Use your brightest pens to colour in these insects!





Answers on page 48

Mouthparts

The type of mouth an insect has depends on what food it eats. Can you match up these mouthparts with the right type of insect?





Insects that glow

Some bugs glow in the dark. Chemicals in their bodies produce light that attracts mates or prey, or warns attackers to stay away.

Firefly

Some male fireflies glow at dusk to attract a mate. Others do not glow.



Size: up to 2.5 cm long
Range: Europe, Africa, Asia, Australasia

Common glowworm



Size: up to 2.5 cm long
Range: Europe, Africa, Asia, Australasia

This female glowworm produces a yellow-green light on its abdomen at dusk. The light attracts males.

Fungus gnat larvae

Fungus gnat larvae nest in a mucus tube. The larva's glowing tail attracts prey, which stick to gluey silk threads dangling from the tube.



Size: up to 2 cm long
Range: worldwide

Railroad worm

If threatened, this beetle larva switches on bright head and body lights to warn the attacker to stay away.



Size: up to 7 cm long
Range: North America to South America

True or false?

1. Each species of firefly flashes its light in a different pattern. ☐
2. Glowworms have been seen near the North Pole. ☐
3. Fireflies can shut off their light when it's not needed. ☐
4. In winter, glowworm larvae fold up like a concertina and hibernate. ☐
5. If a glowworm is hungry, its light shines brighter. ☐

Answers on page 48

Did you know?

The railroad worm also lights up when it's attacking prey. Its head glows a fiery red, its body shines greenish yellow and it kills with a poisonous bite!

Glimmering lights



Magical lights are twinkling at dusk, but who do they belong to? Join the dots to find out!