Dive headfirst into the fascinating world of tiny creatures known as termites! These miniature marvels, often mistaken for ants, are usually white or light brown in color and have soft bodies. These little guys are not loners, they live in large groups called colonies, and boy do they like to keep busy! Each termite has a role to play, from the king and queen who lead the colony, to the workers and soldiers who keep things running smoothly.

Speaking of busy, these industrious insects are nature's recyclers, munching away on dead plant material and wood. That's right, their favorite food is cellulose, the main component found in plant and wood material. This wood-munching habit is why you often find them in dead trees, logs, or even in the wooden structures of houses. But don't worry, they don't just destroy, they also help to break down and recycle materials back into the soil.



From munching wood to building colonies, let's swap gears and explore their life cycle. The life of a termite begins as an egg, which hatches into a nymph. These nymphs then grow and change, taking on roles as workers, soldiers, or reproductives (future kings and queens). Once mature, the new kings and queens fly off to start colonies of their own, continuing the cycle of life for these little critters.



Having taken a peek at their life cycle, let's touch on their relationship with us and other animals. While termites can be a nuisance to homeowners, they play a crucial role in the ecosystem by helping to break down dead plant material. They also serve as a food source for many creatures, like ants, birds, and even some mammals! So, while they might be tiny, termites have a huge impact on the world around us.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

1) What color are termites usually?

A. Green or blue B. Red or pink

C. White or light brown D. Black or dark brown

2) What are the large groups where termites live called?

A. townsB. coloniesC. hivesD. kingdoms

3) What do termites like to eat?

A. Cellulose
C. Blood
D. Plants

4) What other insect are termites sometimes mistaken for?

A. grasshoppers

C. beetles

D. thrips

5) Who consumes termites?

A. Ants, birds, and some mammalsB. Butterflies, beetles, and beesC. Flowers, trees, and grassesD. People, lions, and whales

6) Which are roles in a termite colony?

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7) Where would you be most likely to find termites?

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8) How does the life of a termite begin?

A. As a pupaB. As an eggC. As a caterpillarD. As a larva

9) What do termites do with the waste they produce?

A. They use it as foodB. They use it to build their nestsC. They recycle it back into the soilD. They store it for future use

10) What role do termites play in the ecosystem?

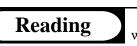
A. Helping to clean and purify water B. Pollinating flowers

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Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

11) "We start our lives as eggs, then we hatch into tiny creatures called nymphs."

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- 13) "There's royalty among us termites. We even have a king and queen who lead the termite colony."
- **14**) "We don't hatch from eggs."
- 15) "Ever wondered why you find us often in dead trees or logs? It's because we love the taste of wood!"
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- 17) "Houses are just not in our diet."
- **18)** "We termites live together in a large group called a colony."
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Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 28) Termites eat dead plant material and wood.
- 29) Termites are much more fascinating than ants because of their different life stages.
- **30**) The termite colony is led by a king and queen.
- 31) It's intriguing how termites live in organized colonies with different roles for each termite.
- 32) Termites are tiny creatures that are usually white or light brown and have soft bodies.
- 33) Termites eating their way through a wooden structure is a gross thought.
- 34) Termites serve as a major food source for many animals including ants, birds, and some mammals.
- **35**) Termites live in large groups known as colonies.
- **36)** Termites are highly underrated for their contribution to the soil.
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Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **38)** Termites are usually white or light brown in color.
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- **44**) Termites spend their lives in the same colony where they were born.
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Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 48) The fact that termites use their feces to build their nests is both gross and fascinating!
- **49**) Call a professional exterminator if you suspect a termite infestation.
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- 51) Termites consume wood 24/7 until nothing is left, it's an astonishing dedication!
- 52) Termites live in groups called colonies.
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| | | Termites | | Name: |
|-----|---|----------|-----|-------|
| 1. | 2 | 26. | 51. | |
| 2. | | 27. | 52. | |
| 3. | 2 | 28. | 53. | |
| 4. | | 29. | 54. | |
| 5. | | 30. | 55. | |
| 6. | | 31. | 56. | |
| 7. | | 32. | 57. | |
| 8. | | 33. | 58. | |
| 9. | 3 | 34. | 59. | |
| 10. | | 35. | | |
| 11. | 3 | 36. | | |
| 12. | 3 | 37. | | |
| 13. | 3 | 38. | | |
| 14. | 3 | 39. | | |
| 15. | | 40. | | |
| 16. | | 41. | | |
| 17. | | 12. | | |
| 18. | | 13. | | |
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| 21. | | 46. | | |
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 \mathbf{C} false 26. B true 2. 27. A fact 3. 28. B opinion 4. 29. A fact 30. 5. B opinion 6. 31. A fact 32. 7. B opinion 8. 33. C fact 9. 34. \mathbf{C} fact 10. 35. opinion true 11. 36. opinion true 12. 37. true true 13. 38. false false 14. 39. true true 15. 40. false false 16. 41. **false** true 17. 42. false true 18. 43. false true 19. 44. false true 20. 45. **false** true 21. 46. true true 22. 47. false exclamatory 23. 48. imperative true 24. 49. false interrogative 50. 25.

exclamatory 51. declarative 52. interrogative 53. declarative 54. interrogative 55. declarative 56. imperative 57. exclamatory 58. imperative 59.



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