



Ladies and Gentlemen, meet the tiny but mighty, fruit fly! This little insect is often a reddish-brown color and has a pair of large red eyes that help it see all around. Though they're tiny, only about one-eighth of an inch in length, they're easy to spot because they usually travel in swarms. What makes them really stand out are their transparent wings that flutter about when they fly.

Let's follow these tiny wonders to their favorite hangout spots. These tiny critters can be found all over the world, but they especially love warm places with lots of fruit and vegetables.

Speaking of food, fruit flies have a sweet tooth and are particularly fond of ripened fruits, vegetables, and other organic materials. So, if you have a fruit bowl at home, you might have encountered these little guys.

Building on that, let's dive into the fascinating life cycle of these miniature explorers. Our tiny friends have a very quick life cycle, which starts when an adult female lays about 500 eggs on a piece of ripened fruit. These eggs hatch into larvae, which feed on the fruit, before turning into pupae. After a few days, they emerge as adults, ready to start the cycle all over again!



Now that we know about their life, let's see how they fit into the bigger picture. While they might be a bit of a nuisance in our homes, fruit flies actually play an important role in nature by helping to break down rotting fruits and veggies. Their love for fruit also means they're a tasty snack for many other insects, spiders, and birds. So, while they might be tiny, fruit flies have a big role to play in our world, whether it's in our kitchen or in the great outdoors.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What color are the fruit flies eyes?
 - A. yellow
 - B. red
 - C. green
 - D. blue
- 2) What is the role of fruit flies in nature?
 - A. pollinating flowers
 - B. collect nectar
 - C. making silk
 - D. helping to break down rotting fruits and veggies
- 3) What color are the wings of fruit flies?
 - A. they are blue with yellow veins
 - B. they are red
 - C. they are black
 - D. they have no color they're transparent
- 4) What is not a food choice of fruit flies?
 - A. Cooked Meat
 - B. Vegetables
 - C. Organic Material
 - D. Ripe Fruits
- 5) What color are fruit flies?
 - A. black
 - B. reddish-brown
 - C. green and brown
 - D. dark brown
- 6) What size are fruit flies?
 - A. one foot
 - B. about one-eighth of an inch
 - C. five inches
 - D. two feet
- 7) How many eggs does an adult female fruit fly lay?
 - A. 100 eggs
 - B. 1000 eggs
 - C. about 500 eggs
 - D. 10 eggs
- 8) What do fruit fly eggs hatch into?
 - A. cocoons
 - B. pupae
 - C. grubs
 - D. larvae
- 9) Which choice does NOT see fruit flies as a tasty snack?
 - A. Birds
 - B. Spiders
 - C. Mice
 - D. Insects
- 10) What do fruit fly larvae feed on?
 - A. cloth
 - B. large mammals
 - C. small insects
 - D. fruit

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

- 11) "I am a lone wolf."



- 12) "You might find me around your home, especially if you have a fruit bowl. I can't resist those delicious fruits!"
- 13) "Other insects, spiders, and birds find me quite delicious, so I always have to be on the lookout for them."
- 14) "I start out as one of many eggs that a female fruit fly lays on a ripe fruit, then I quickly turn into a larva."
- 15) "Even though I'm tiny, I'm easy to spot because I hang out with my friends in big groups!"
- 16) "I lay only a few eggs on a piece of ripened fruit."
- 17) "I hate warm places."
- 18) "Our moms lay about 500 eggs on a piece of ripe fruit."
- 19) "I don't care about ripened fruit, I'm more into meats."
- 20) "I don't mind living in cold places too."
- 21) "I absolutely love sweet foods, especially ripe fruits! They are my favorite."
- 22) "The color of my eyes is blue."
- 23) "After a few days as a pupa, I'm all grown up and ready to start my life as an adult fruit fly!"
- 24) "You can find me all over the world, but I particularly enjoy warm places."
- 25) "I prefer to lay my eggs in sandy beaches, not fruits."
- 26) "I'm not so bad, while some might think I'm annoying, I actually help break down rotting fruits and veggies."
- 27) "I have big red eyes that help me see everywhere around me."
- 28) "We fruit flies can't see well, we lack eyes."
- 29) "I turn into an adult immediately after hatching."

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 30) Each female fruit fly can lay around 500 eggs on a piece of ripened fruit.
- 31) The love of fruit flies for sweet things is quite interesting.
- 32) Fruit flies are attracted to ripe fruits, vegetables, and other organic materials.
- 33) Fruit flies are the most annoying insects to have in the kitchen.
- 34) Fruit flies are small and less than an inch in length.
- 35) Fruit flies are the most troublesome insects when they swarm.
- 36) Fruit flies help decompose rotting fruits and vegetables in nature.
- 37) Fruit flies are generally found in warm places that are full of fruits and vegetables.
- 38) The short life cycle of fruit flies is quite amazing.
- 39) Fruit flies, with their red eyes and transparent wings, look quite adorable.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 40) Fruit flies have large red eyes.
- 41) An adult female fruit fly lays about 1000 eggs on a piece of ripened fruit.
- 42) Fruit flies are fond of ripened fruits and vegetables.



Determine which choice is the conclusion that can be drawn from the statement.

- 67) Fruit flies share many genes with humans and have a short life cycle, making them perfect for scientific research. What might be a reason for scientists to study fruit flies?
- A. Scientists study fruit flies to learn how to grow better fruits and vegetables.
B. Fruit flies help scientists learn about genetics and other topics that can be applied to humans.
C. Scientists study fruit flies just because they are easy to find.
D. Scientists study fruit flies because they make good pets.
- 68) Fruit flies are attracted to fermenting fruit and can often be found near overripe or rotting fruits. What conclusion can be drawn from this statement?
- A. Fruit flies can be a problem in areas where fruit is not properly stored or disposed of.
B. Fruit flies never invade domestic kitchens.
C. Fruit flies prefer to live in dry and cold environments.
D. Fruit flies don't like sweet food.
- 69) Fruit flies are attracted to ripe, rotting, or decayed fruit where they lay their eggs. Based on this statement, what conclusion can be drawn about their feeding habits?
- A. Fruit flies lay their eggs in smelly things, such as rotting fruits or decomposing animals.
B. Fruit flies prefer certain colors of fruits.
C. Fruit flies feed prefer fresh healthy fruits, but spoiling fruits are more plentiful.
D. Fruit flies are more likely to be found near spoiling fruits.
- 70) Fruit flies have big red eyes that help them see well. Why might having good eyesight be important for fruit flies?
- A. Fruit flies use their eyesight to communicate with other fruit flies.
B. Fruit flies need good eyesight to read and write.
C. Good eyesight isn't important for fruit flies.
D. Good eyesight helps fruit flies find their favorite foods and avoid dangers.
- 71) Fruit flies have a fast reproduction rate and they usually lay around 400-500 eggs in their short lifespan. Based on this statement, what conclusion can be drawn about their population growth?
- A. The population of fruit flies can increase rapidly.
B. Fruit flies are facing extinction.
C. The population of fruit flies remains constant.
D. Fruit flies have a slow reproduction rate.



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| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 28. _____ | 53. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 29. _____ | 54. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 30. _____ | 55. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 31. _____ | 56. _____ |
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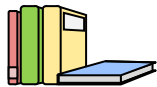
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|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u> B </u> | 26. <u> true </u> | 51. <u> A </u> |
| 2. <u> D </u> | 27. <u> true </u> | 52. <u> D </u> |
| 3. <u> D </u> | 28. <u> false </u> | 53. <u> A </u> |
| 4. <u> A </u> | 29. <u> false </u> | 54. <u> C </u> |
| 5. <u> B </u> | 30. <u> fact </u> | 55. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 6. <u> B </u> | 31. <u> opinion </u> | 56. <u> imperative </u> |
| 7. <u> C </u> | 32. <u> fact </u> | 57. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 8. <u> D </u> | 33. <u> opinion </u> | 58. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 9. <u> C </u> | 34. <u> fact </u> | 59. <u> declarative </u> |
| 10. <u> D </u> | 35. <u> opinion </u> | 60. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 11. <u> false </u> | 36. <u> fact </u> | 61. <u> declarative </u> |
| 12. <u> true </u> | 37. <u> fact </u> | 62. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 13. <u> true </u> | 38. <u> opinion </u> | 63. <u> declarative </u> |
| 14. <u> true </u> | 39. <u> opinion </u> | 64. <u> imperative </u> |
| 15. <u> true </u> | 40. <u> true </u> | 65. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 16. <u> false </u> | 41. <u> false </u> | 66. <u> imperative </u> |
| 17. <u> false </u> | 42. <u> true </u> | 67. <u> B </u> |
| 18. <u> true </u> | 43. <u> false </u> | 68. <u> A </u> |
| 19. <u> false </u> | 44. <u> true </u> | 69. <u> D </u> |
| 20. <u> false </u> | 45. <u> false </u> | 70. <u> D </u> |
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| 24. <u> true </u> | 49. <u> true </u> | |
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- 12) "You might find me around your home, especially if you have a fruit bowl. I can't resist those delicious fruits!" (paragraph 2)