

Name:

Imagine an insect that looks like a cross between a cricket and a mole, with front legs that look like miniature bulldozers. That's our friend, the mole cricket, a creature as interesting as it is unique. They aren't very big, usually around 1 to 2 inches in length, and are usually brownish in color. A couple of their unique features are their sturdy front legs designed for digging, and their long antennae that help them sense their surroundings.



Speaking of surroundings, mole crickets don't live just

anywhere. They prefer inhabiting warm, moist places, and you can often find them underground in fields, gardens, or near water bodies. Their super strong front legs, remember the mini bulldozers, help them dig intricate tunnels in the soil. And guess what? This is where they spend most of their lives, cozy and hidden away.

Now, you might be wondering, 'What does our friend eat while living underground?' Well, these little diggers are omnivores, which means they eat both plants and other small creatures. Their diet includes roots, grasses, insects, and even their own kind if food is scarce! When it comes to their life cycle, they start as eggs, become nymphs (think of it as the teenage stage for insects), and then grow into adults, all within a year's time.



Our final stop on this journey is to understand how these critters interact with us and the world around them. While they might seem scary to some, mole crickets aren't harmful to humans at all. However, they can sometimes be a nuisance to farmers and gardeners because they love munching on plant roots. To protect themselves from predators, mole crickets can both fly and burrow quickly into the ground - a dual escape plan, how cool is that!



Mole Crickets

Solve each problem.

	the article to answer the question.		
1)	What color are mole crickets? A. red	D	graan
	C. brown		green yellow
		D.	yenow
2)	What defense will mole crickets do to protect	the	mselves from predators?
	A. play dead		fly away
	C. camouflage themselves	D.	spit venom
3)	What are mole cricket's unique features?		
,	A. wings and sharp claws	B.	horns and sharp fangs
	C. bright colors	D.	sturdy front legs designed for digging
4)	Are mole crickets harmful to humans?		
-)	A. no, not usually	B	yes, at all ages
	C. yes, when they are adults		yes, when they are nymphs
5)	How long does it take for mole crickets to be		
	A. one year		one week
	C. one month	D.	one day
6)	What do mole crickets use their front legs for	?	
	A. fighting	В.	digging
	C. swimming	D.	jumping
7)	Where do mole crickets prefer to live?		
.,	A. dry, barren places	B.	hot, humid places
	C. cold, dry places		warm, moist places
0)		0	-
8)	What do mole crickets use their front legs for A. Catching insects		Creating holes in trees
	C. Digging tunnels		•
	C. Digging tunnels	D.	Climbing trees
9)	About how large are mole crickets?		
	A. Around 2 inches		Microscopic
	C. About 1 foot	D.	Larger than 6 inches
10)	What do mole crickets eat?		
,	A. only plants	B.	only insects and spiders
	C. only other mole crickets	D.	plants and other small creatures
Date	mine if the statements is comething the en	im	would can (W) on it it is not comothing

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

- 11) "I enjoy the dry and cold places."
- 12) "We mole crickets hate to stay hidden."

1-10										
11-20	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0

	Mole Crickets	Name:
13)	Wy front legs are just right for digging through the soil. They are my p bulldozers!"	personal
14)	We mole crickets are really big, around 4 to 5 inches in length."	
15)	5) "I never eat other insects, that's gross."	
16)	We live in the harsh cold of the mountains."	
17)	"I often hide myself in the soil, in fields and gardens. It's cozy and safe.	."
18)) "My life cycle is quite rapid. I start as an egg and become an adult in ju	st a year."
19)) "Size isn't everything. I'm only about an inch or two long, but I'm might	ty in my own way!"
20)) "I live for many years, almost as long as a human."	
21)) "I absolutely dislike staying near water bodies."	
22)	Farmers and gardeners love us, we help their plants grow."	
23)	I'I'm a bit picky about where I settle. I like places that are warm and mo best homes!"	ist. They make the
24)) "I prefer eating fruits and vegetables."	
25)	i) "Although I won't harm you, I can be a nuisance to farmers and gardene munching habit!"	ers. Beware of my
26)	Sometimes, if food is scarce, I might have to eat other mole crickets. In prefer."	t's not something I
27)	"When I'm not digging, I'm eating. I enjoy a good mix of roots, grasses,	, and even bugs."
28)	B) "We are dangerous and harmful to humans."	
29)) "You won't believe it, but I can actually fly. A flying bulldozer, that's q	uite a sight."
30)) "No need to be scared of me. I won't hurt you. I just like digging in the	soil."
Dete	etermine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information	in the article.
31)) The life cycle of a mole cricket goes from egg to nymph to adult all wit	hin a year.
32)	b) It's gross that mole crickets eat other mole crickets.	
33)	b) Mole crickets eat plants, insects and sometimes even their own kind.	
34)) It is amazing that mole crickets can live underground most of their lives	s.
35)	b) Mole crickets usually live in warm, moist places like gardens, fields or	near water bodies.
36)) It's amazing that mole crickets can both fly and dig underground to prot	tect themselves.
37)	/) Mole crickets can be a problem for farmers and gardeners because they	eat plant roots.
38)	B) Most of the time, mole crickets live underground in tunnels that they di	g themselves.
39)	Mole crickets ability to dig intricate tunnels is incredible.	
40)	Male anishes and for single horizon their front loss look like mini hul	ldozona

40) Mole crickets are fascinating because their front legs look like mini bulldozers.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 41) Mole crickets can escape danger by flying.
- 42) Mole crickets are harmful to humans.
- **43**) Mole crickets will eat plant roots.

	Mole Cri		N
	Mole crickets are usually blue or surrals in a		Name:
44) 45)	Mole crickets are usually blue or purple in co		
45) 40)	Mole crickets can be a nuisance to gardeners		
46)	Mole crickets can grow to over 5 inches in le	ength.	
47)	Mole crickets only eat other insects.		
48)	Mole crickets prefer to live in dry areas.		
49)	Mole crickets use their antennae to sense the	ir surroundings.	
50)	Mole crickets use their front legs for digging	·	
Dete	ermine which choice is the expanded form o	f the underlined contraction.	
51)	Mole crickets <u>don't</u> eat just plants; they eat in	sects too!	
	A. does not	B. are not	
	C. cannot	D. do not	
52)	Mole crickets <u>can't</u> see very well in the dark.		
	A. can	B. could not	
	C. can not	D. cannot	
53)	Mole crickets don't get very large.		
	A. does not	B. do	
	C. are not	D. do not	
54)	Mole crickets <u>can't</u> fly when they're young.		
	A. will not	B. are not	
	C. do not	D. cannot	
55)	They're helpful by eating harmful bugs.		
	A. They have	B. They were	
	C. They are	D. They do	
56)	Their front legs aren't like regular cricket legs	S.	
	A. cannot	B. is not	
	C. are not	D. do not	
	ermine if the sentence is a declarative(d), ex	clamatory(e), interrogative(i)	or
-	erative(m).	in coveral times!	
	It's amazing how mole crickets shed their ski		
58)	Educate others about mole crickets and their	importance in the ecosystem.	
59)	Do mole crickets harm humans?		

- **59)** Do mole crickets harm humans?
- 60) Wow, mole crickets can grow up to 1.5 inches long!
- 61) Mole crickets are known for damaging lawns and gardens.
- **62**) What color are mole crickets?
- 63) Mole crickets use their powerful front legs to dig.
- **64)** Where do mole crickets lay their eggs?
- **65**) Mole crickets live underground.



Mole Crickets

Name:

66) Protect their habitat by not using harmful pesticides.

67) I can't believe mole crickets eat other mole crickets!

68) Please be gentle and let the mole crickets go if you find them.

	Mole Crickets	Name:
1	26.	51
2.	27	52.
3.	28.	53
4	29.	54
5.	30.	55
6	31.	56
7	32.	57
8.	33.	58
9	34.	59
10.	35	60
11	36.	61
12.	37	62.
13.	38.	63.
14.	39.	64
15	40.	65
16	41	66
17	42.	67
18.	43.	68
19.	44	
20.	45.	
21.	46.	
22.	47	
23.	48	
24.	49.	
25	50	
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Name:

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anywhere. They prefer inhabiting warm, moist places, and you can often find them underground in fields, gardens, or near water bodies. Their super strong front legs, remember the mini bulldozers, help them dig intricate tunnels in the soil. And guess what? This is where they spend most of their lives, cozy and hidden away.

Now, you might be wondering, 'What does our friend eat while living underground?' Well, these little diggers are omnivores, which means they eat both plants and other small creatures. Their diet includes roots, grasses, insects, and even their own kind if food is scarce! When it comes to their life cycle, they start as eggs, become nymphs (think of it as the teenage stage for insects), and then grow into adults, all within a year's time.



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Name: Answer Key

Solve each problem.

Use	the article to answer the question.		
	What color are mole crickets?		
_)	A. red	B.	green
	C. brown	D.	yellow
2)	What defense will mole crickets do to protect	t the	mselves from predators?
	A. play dead	В.	fly away
	C. camouflage themselves	D.	spit venom
3)	What are mole cricket's unique features?		
	A. wings and sharp claws	В.	horns and sharp fangs
	C. bright colors	D.	sturdy front legs designed for digging
4)	Are mole crickets harmful to humans?		
	A. no, not usually	В.	yes, at all ages
	C. yes, when they are adults	D.	yes, when they are nymphs
5)	How long does it take for mole crickets to be	com	e adults?
	A. one year	В.	one week
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6)	What do mole crickets use their front legs for	?	
	A. fighting	В.	digging
	C. swimming	D.	jumping
7)	Where do mole crickets prefer to live?		
	A. dry, barren places	В.	hot, humid places
	C. cold, dry places	D.	warm, moist places
8)	What do mole crickets use their front legs for	?	
	A. Catching insects	В.	Creating holes in trees
	C. Digging tunnels	D.	Climbing trees
9)	About how large are mole crickets?		
	A. Around 2 inches	В.	Microscopic
	C. About 1 foot	D.	Larger than 6 inches
10)	What do mole crickets eat?		
	A. only plants	B.	only insects and spiders
	C. only other mole crickets	D.	plants and other small creatures
Dete	ermine if the statements is something the an	nims	al would say (W) or it it is not something

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

- 11) "I enjoy the dry and cold places."
- 12) "We mole crickets hate to stay hidden."

	Mole Crickets	Name:	Answer Ke	•y			
13)	"My front legs are just right for digging through the soil. They are my person bulldozers!"	iai					
14)	"We mole crickets are really big, around 4 to 5 inches in length."						
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16)	"We live in the harsh cold of the mountains."						
17)	"I often hide myself in the soil, in fields and gardens. It's cozy and safe."						
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19)	"Size isn't everything. I'm only about an inch or two long, but I'm mighty in a	my own w	vay!"				
20)	"I live for many years, almost as long as a human."						
21)	"I absolutely dislike staying near water bodies."						
22)	"Farmers and gardeners love us, we help their plants grow."						
23)	"I'm a bit picky about where I settle. I like places that are warm and moist. The best homes!"	hey make	the				
24)	"I prefer eating fruits and vegetables."						
25)	"Although I won't harm you, I can be a nuisance to farmers and gardeners. B munching habit!"	eware of 1	my				
26)	"Sometimes, if food is scarce, I might have to eat other mole crickets. It's not prefer."	t somethin	ng I				
27)	"When I'm not digging, I'm eating. I enjoy a good mix of roots, grasses, and	even bugs					
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37)	Mole crickets can be a problem for farmers and gardeners because they eat plant roots.						
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Dete	ermine which choice is the expanded form	of the underlined contraction.					
51)	Mole crickets <u>don't</u> eat just plants; they eat in						
	A. does not	B. are not					
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52)	Mole crickets <u>can't</u> see very well in the dark.						
	A. can	B. could not					
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	A. will not	B. are not					
	C. do not	D. cannot					
55)	They're helpful by eating harmful bugs.						
	A. They have	B. They were					
	C. They are	D. They do					
56)	56) Their front legs <u>aren't</u> like regular cricket legs.						
	A. cannot	B. is not					
	C. are not	D. do not					
Dot							
	Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).						
-	It's amazing how mole crickets shed their sk	tin several times!					
58)	Educate others about mole crickets and their	r importance in the ecosystem.					

- **59**) Do mole crickets harm humans?
- 60) Wow, mole crickets can grow up to 1.5 inches long!
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Name: Answer Key

66) Protect their habitat by not using harmful pesticides.

67) I can't believe mole crickets eat other mole crickets!

68) Please be gentle and let the mole crickets go if you find them.

			Mole Cricket	ts		Name:	Answer Key
1.	C	26.	true	51.	D		
2.	В	27.	true	52.	D	_	
3.	D	28.	false	53.	D		
4.	A	29.	true	54.	D		
5.	A	30.	true	55.	С		
6.	В	31.	fact	56.	С	_	
7.	D	32.	opinion	57.	exclamatory	_	
8.	C	33.	fact	58.	imperative	_	
9.	A	34	opinion	59.	interrogative	_	
10.	D	35.	fact	60.	exclamatory		
11.	false	36.	opinion	61.	declarative		
12.	false	37.	fact	62.	interrogative		
13.	true	38.	fact	63.	declarative		
14.	false	39.	opinion	64.	interrogative	_	
15.	false	40.	opinion	65.	declarative	_	
16.	false	41.	true	66.	imperative	_	
17.	true	42.	false	67.	exclamatory	_	
18.	true	43.	true	68.	imperative	_	
19.	true	44	false				
20.	false	45.	true				
21.	false	46.	false				
22.	false	47.	false				
23.	true	48.	false				
24.	false	49.	true				
25.	true	50.	true				
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Mole Crickets

Solve each problem. Use the article to answer the question.

1)	What color are mole crickets? (paragraph 1) A. red C. brown	B. D.	green
2)	What defense will mole crickets do to protect A. play dead C.		mselves from predators? (paragraph 4) fly away
3)	What are mole cricket's unique features? (parag A. wings and sharp claws C.	B.	sturdy front legs designed for digging
4)	Are mole crickets harmful to humans? (paragrap A. no, not usually C.	^{h 4)} B. D.	
5)	How long does it take for mole crickets to be A. one year C.		e adults? (paragraph 3) one week
6)	What do mole crickets use their front legs for A. C.		ragraph 1) digging
7)	Where do mole crickets prefer to live? (paragrap A. dry, barren places C.	B.	warm, moist places
8)	What do mole crickets use their front legs forA. Catching insectsC. Digging tunnels		ragraph 2) Creating holes in trees
9)	About how large are mole crickets? (paragraph 1) A. Around 2 inches C.	B. D.	Microscopic
10)	What do mole crickets eat? (paragraph 3) A. only plants C.		only insects and spiders plants and other small creatures

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

11) "I enjoy the dry and cold places." (paragraph 2)



12) "We mole crickets hate to stay hidden." (paragraph 2)

