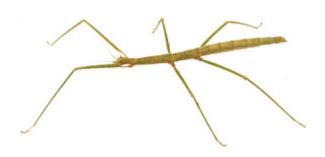


Imagine a creature that looks like a twig, but surprise, it's an insect! This fascinating creature, known as a walking stick, is so good at camouflage, it can easily trick you into thinking it's just a twig hanging from a tree. They have long, slender bodies and legs, with colors ranging from green to brown, perfectly blending with their surroundings. These curious critters are one of the most unique members of the insect world, and they're just waiting to amaze you with their cool tricks!



Speaking of tricks, let's explore some of their survival strategies. Walking sticks are herbivores, which means they munch on leaves, especially the yummy ones from oak and hazelnut trees. When a predator approaches, they play dead or drop from the trees to escape, and if that doesn't work, some can even squirt a smelly spray to scare the predator away! It's a bug-eat-bug world out there, and these guys are fully equipped for it.

From being a master of disguise to having a unique diet, walking sticks sure are interesting, but let's take a peek into their life cycle. The female lays her eggs by dropping them to the ground where they hide among the leaf litter until they hatch. Once they hatch, the baby walking sticks, called nymphs, will grow into adults, shedding their skin as they get bigger. The whole process is a fascinating cycle of growth and transformation.



Now that we know all about their lives, let's see how these little critters interact with us humans and other animals. While they do not have a direct impact on humans, their primary defense mechanism can be irritating if the liquid gets in our eyes. As for other animals, birds, reptiles, and small mammals might see them as a tasty snack, although their camouflage and defenses often keep them safe. These twig-like insects are not just unique in appearance, but they also hold a special place in the web of life, teaching us about the wonders of adaptation and survival.



#### Solve each problem.

#### Use the article to answer the question.

1) What do walking sticks eat?

A. Leaves from oak and hazelnut trees. B. Small insects and bugs.

C. Human blood and skin flakes. D. Honey and flower nectar.

2) What color can walking sticks be?

A. Black and white B. Red and blue D. Green to brown C. Yellow and purple

3) What are baby walking sticks called?

B. Infants. A. Larvae. C. Pupae. D. Nymphs.

4) Are walking stick insects harmful to humans?

A. No, they are completely harmless B. Yes, their bite can cause serious

C. Only if their defense liquid gets in our D. Yes, they are extremely poisonous eyes

5) How do female walking sticks lay their eggs?

A. By dropping them to the ground B. By burying them deep in the soil

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A. They fly away. B. They change their color.

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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) "If I see a predator I might squirt out a smelly spray to scare them away!"
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- 14) "I have a carnivorous diet, I love eating insects."
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- 16) "The way I lay eggs is by carefully placing them one by one."
- 17) "I don't have any defenses against predators."
- 18) "When a danger comes near, sometimes I will play dead or drop down from trees to hide."
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- **34)** Baby walking sticks, known as nymphs, shed their skin as they grow bigger.
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- **36)** The way walking sticks mimic twigs to hide from predators is amazing.
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- **38)** Reptiles see walking sticks as a tasty snack.
- **39**) Walking sticks are all brown to blend in with tree twigs.
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- **41**) Walking sticks are carnivores.



Name:

- 42) Baby walking sticks are called nymphs.
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#### Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

- **48)** Walking sticks <u>don't</u> cause any harm to humans.
  - A. does not

B. do not

C. did not

D. will not

- **49**) They've been found living in forests and grasslands.
  - A. They have

B. They were

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- **50**) Walking sticks <u>can't</u> change their size, but they can change colors.
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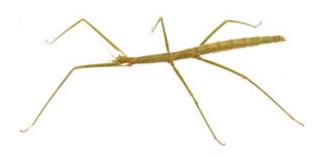
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	Walking Sticks	Name:
1.	26.	51.
2.	27.	52.
3.	28.	53.
4.	29.	54.
5.	30.	55.
6.	31.	56.
7.	32.	57.
8.	33.	58.
9.	34.	59.
10.	35.	60.
11.	36.	61.
12.	37.	
13.	38.	
14.	39.	
15.	40.	
16.	41.	
17.	42.	
18.	43.	
19.	44.	
20.	45.	
21.	46.	
22.	47.	
23.	48.	
24.	49.	
25.	50.	
<b>Reading</b> www	w.CommonCoreSheets.com	Page 5 of 5



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**Answer Key** 

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1-10	95	90	85	80	75	70	65	60	55	50
11-20										

**Answer Key** 

1.	<u>A</u>	26.	false
2.	<b>D</b>	27.	true
3.	<b>D</b>	28.	fact
4.	<u>C</u>	29.	opinion
5.	A	30.	fact
6.	C	31.	opinion
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8.	B	33.	opinion
9.	C	34.	fact
10.	C	35.	fact
11.	true	36.	opinion
12.	true	37.	opinion
13.	true	38.	true
14.	false	39.	false
15.	true	40.	true
16.	false	41.	false
17.	false	42.	true
18.	true	43.	false
19.	true	44.	false
20.	true	45.	false
21.	false	46.	true
22.	true	47.	true
23.	false	48.	В
24.	true	49.	A
25.	false	50.	D

		Nam
		- T (GIII
51.	<u>A</u>	_
52.	C	
53.	declarative	_
54.	exclamatory	
55.	declarative	_
56.	interrogative	_
57.	interrogative	_
58.	exclamatory	_
59.	declarative	_
60.	interrogative	_
61.	exclamatory	_

Name:

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Use the article to answer the question	U	Į	U	J	S	e	1	th	ıe	ar	tic	cle	•	to	ans	wer	the	q	questior	ı.
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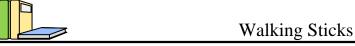
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