



Guess what, there's a creature named after two animals – the ant and the lion, but it's not related to either! The ant lion, as it's called, is actually a tiny insect that looks a bit like a dragonfly when it's fully grown. In their younger stage, they're called 'ant lion larvae' and look like little bugs with big jaws. These guys are unique with their flat bodies, six tiny legs and a pair of fearsome jaws.



Speaking of their looks, did you know these creatures are also famous for their homes? Ant lions usually live in sandy or dusty areas where they dig small, funnel-shaped pits. These pits are not just any home, they are clever traps for unsuspecting prey, mainly ants. When an ant stumbles into the pit, the ant lion waits at the bottom to catch it with its large jaws.

Now that we've seen their homes, let's dive into their life cycle and diet. Ant lions start their life as an egg, then they hatch into larvae (the stage where they dig pits and catch ants), and finally transform into adults. The adult stage is the only time they can fly and they mostly eat pollen and nectar. Interestingly, adult ant lions don't have any jaws to eat solid food, so they only have a short time to find a mate and lay eggs before they starve.



Even though they might seem a little scary, ant lions are harmless to humans and are even beneficial. Their pits help aerate the soil and their hunting reduces the number of ants, which can be pests. They also serve as food for other creatures like birds and spiders. So, next time you see a tiny pit in a sandy area, remember it could be the home of an ant lion, an insect that's not an ant or a lion but an amazing creature in its own right.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What does the ant lion look like when it's fully grown?
A. It looks like a lion.
B. It looks like an ant.
C. It looks like a dragonfly.
D. It looks like a sparrow.
- 2) Do ant lions help in reducing the number of ants?
A. Yes, their hunting reduces the number of ants.
B. No, they do not affect the number of ants.
C. No, they have no interactions with ants.
D. No, they actually increase the number of ants.
- 3) Where do ant lions usually live?
A. They live in the forest.
B. They live in grasslands.
C. They live in water bodies.
D. They live in sandy areas.
- 4) Do ant lions lay eggs?
A. No, they reproduce in a different way.
B. No, they give birth to live young ones.
C. No, they don't lay eggs.
D. Yes, adult ant lions lay eggs.
- 5) What do adult ant lions usually eat?
A. They mostly eat plant leaves.
B. They mostly eat ants.
C. They mostly eat small insects.
D. They mostly eat pollen and nectar.
- 6) What do ant lion larvae look like?
A. They look like tiny ants.
B. They look like small lions.
C. They look like little bugs with big jaws.
D. They look like tiny dragonflies.
- 7) What is the shape of the pits ant lions dig?
A. They dig circular pits.
B. They dig square pits.
C. They dig rectangular pits.
D. They dig funnel-shaped pits.
- 8) What is the purpose of the pits dug by the ant lions?
A. They use the pits to lay eggs.
B. They use the pits to hide from predators.
C. They use the pits to store food.
D. They use the pits to trap ants.
- 9) Do other creatures eat ant lions?
A. No, they are too dangerous to be eaten.
B. No, no other creatures eat them.
C. No, they are not edible to any creature.
D. Yes, other creatures like birds and spiders eat them.
- 10) In which stage do ant lions fly?
A. They don't fly at all.
B. They fly in their larvae stage.
C. They fly when they are eggs.
D. They fly in their adult stage.

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



- 11) "My diet is completely different from my larvae stage to when I grow my wings. From ants to pollen."
- 12) "Though some may find me intimidating, remember I am harmless to humans."
- 13) "While my name suggests I'm part ant, part lion, I'm actually a tiny insect."
- 14) "I don't change a lot from when I'm young to when I'm grown."
- 15) "I am known for my homes, which are little pits that I did in sandy areas."
- 16) "I can fly as soon as I am born."
- 17) "I love making my home in the forest."
- 18) "As an adult, I feed mainly on pollen and nectar as I cannot eat solid food."
- 19) "After transforming into an adult, my life turns into a race against time, as I need to find a mate and lay eggs before I starve."
- 20) "My life begins as an egg, then I become a larva, and finally, I change into an adult."
- 21) "I dig large, cavernous pits."
- 22) "My funnel-shaped pits double as a home and a trap for my prey."
- 23) "I live in watery areas."
- 24) "In my larval stage, I really stand out with my flat bodies, six tiny legs, and a pair of fearsome jaws."
- 25) "I only have two legs."
- 26) "I only eat ants my entire life."
- 27) "I may look like a dragonfly when I'm grown, but when I'm young, I'm more like a little bug with big jaws."

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

- 28) During their adult period, ant lions feed mostly on nectar and pollen.
- 29) Having big jaws when no other part of your body is big is a little bit scary.
- 30) Ant lions go through three stages in their life cycle: egg, larva, and adult.
- 31) It is amazing how ant lions create such tiny homes without any tools.
- 32) The ant lion is an insect and not a type of ant or lion.
- 33) Ant lions are the most interesting when they are in the stage of larva and hunting for food.
- 34) Ant lions are harmless to humans.
- 35) Ant lions dig funnel-shaped pits that serve as their homes and also as traps for their prey.
- 36) The way ant lions trap their prey is very impressive!
- 37) It's amazing how fast an antlion can catch an ant in its pit.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 38) Birds and spiders eat ant lions.
- 39) Ant lions bites contain a toxin that is deadly to humans.
- 40) Ant lion pits can help aerate the soil.
- 41) Adult ant lions may eat up to 200 ants a day!
- 42) Adult ant lions do not eat solid food.
- 43) The ant lion spends its whole life in its sandy pit.
- 44) Ant lions are ants that have a fur mane.
- 45) Ant lions eat birds and spiders in addition to ants.
- 46) Adult ant lions are harmless to humans.
- 47) Ant lions dig small, funnel-shaped pits to live in.



Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 48) Ant lions are also known as doodlebugs because of the squiggly trails they leave behind as they move through the sand.
- 49) It's intriguing how an ant lion's pit can be almost perfect in its symmetry!
- 50) Ant lions dig cone-shaped pits in the sand to catch their prey.
- 51) What do ant lions eat?
- 52) How do ant lions catch their prey?
- 53) An ant lion can wait for days until a prey falls into its trap!
- 54) The jaws of ant lions are so quick that they can snatch their prey in the blink of an eye.
- 55) Are ant lions dangerous to humans?
- 56) It's astonishing how these small insects can trap an ant larger than themselves!



Ant Lions

Name: _____

1. _____ 26. _____ 51. _____

2. _____ 27. _____ 52. _____

3. _____ 28. _____ 53. _____

4. _____ 29. _____ 54. _____

5. _____ 30. _____ 55. _____

6. _____ 31. _____ 56. _____

7. _____ 32. _____

8. _____ 33. _____

9. _____ 34. _____

10. _____ 35. _____

11. _____ 36. _____

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13. _____ 38. _____

14. _____ 39. _____

15. _____ 40. _____

16. _____ 41. _____

17. _____ 42. _____

18. _____ 43. _____

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22. _____ 47. _____

23. _____ 48. _____

24. _____ 49. _____

25. _____ 50. _____



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Speaking of their looks, did you know these creatures are also famous for their homes? Ant lions usually live in sandy or dusty areas where they dig small, funnel-shaped pits. These pits are not just any home, they are clever traps for unsuspecting prey, mainly ants. When an ant stumbles into the pit, the ant lion waits at the bottom to catch it with its large jaws.

Now that we've seen their homes, let's dive into their life cycle and diet. Ant lions start their life as an egg, then they hatch into larvae (the stage where they dig pits and catch ants), and finally transform into adults. The adult stage is the only time they can fly and they mostly eat pollen and nectar. Interestingly, adult ant lions don't have any jaws to eat solid food, so they only have a short time to find a mate and lay eggs before they starve.



Even though they might seem a little scary, ant lions are harmless to humans and are even beneficial. Their pits help aerate the soil and their hunting reduces the number of ants, which can be pests. They also serve as food for other creatures like birds and spiders. So, next time you see a tiny pit in a sandy area, remember it could be the home of an ant lion, an insect that's not an ant or a lion but an amazing creature in its own right.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

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1.	C	26.	Not	51.	interrogative
2.	A	27.	Would	52.	interrogative
3.	D	28.	fact	53.	exclamatory
4.	D	29.	opinion	54.	declarative
5.	D	30.	fact	55.	interrogative
6.	C	31.	opinion	56.	exclamatory
7.	D	32.	fact		
8.	D	33.	opinion		
9.	D	34.	fact		
10.	D	35.	fact		
11.	Would	36.	opinion		
12.	Would	37.	opinion		
13.	Would	38.	true		
14.	Not	39.	false		
15.	Would	40.	true		
16.	Not	41.	false		
17.	Not	42.	true		
18.	Would	43.	false		
19.	Would	44.	false		
20.	Would	45.	false		
21.	Not	46.	true		
22.	Would	47.	true		
23.	Not	48.	declarative		
24.	Would	49.	exclamatory		
25.	Not	50.	declarative		



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What does the ant lion look like when it's fully grown? (paragraph 1)
A. It looks like an ant.
B. It looks like a dragonfly.
C. It looks like a lion.
D. It looks like a fly.
- 2) Do ant lions help in reducing the number of ants? (paragraph 4)
A. Yes, their hunting reduces the number of ants.
B. No, they eat pollen and nectar.
C. They eat other insects.
D. They eat small insects.
- 3) Where do ant lions usually live? (paragraph 2)
A. They live in the forest.
B. They live in grasslands.
C. They live in sandy areas.
D. They live in deserts.
- 4) Do ant lions lay eggs? (paragraph 3)
A. No, they give birth to live young ones.
B. Yes, they lay eggs.
C. They lay eggs in the ground.
D. Yes, adult ant lions lay eggs.
- 5) What do adult ant lions usually eat? (paragraph 3)
A. They mostly eat ants.
B. They mostly eat pollen and nectar.
C. They eat small insects.
D. They eat other insects.
- 6) What do ant lion larvae look like? (paragraph 1)
A. They look like tiny ants.
B. They look like small lions.
C. They look like little bugs with big jaws.
D. They look like flies.
- 7) What is the shape of the pits ant lions dig? (paragraph 2)
A. They dig square pits.
B. They dig funnel-shaped pits.
C. They dig circular pits.
D. They dig deep pits.
- 8) What is the purpose of the pits dug by the ant lions? (paragraph 2)
A. They use the pits to lay eggs.
B. They use the pits to hide from predators.
C. They use the pits to trap ants.
D. They use the pits to eat ants.
- 9) Do other creatures eat ant lions? (paragraph 4)
A. No, they are too dangerous to be eaten.
B. No, no other creatures eat them.
C. They are eaten by birds and spiders.
D. Yes, other creatures like birds and spiders eat them.
- 10) In which stage do ant lions fly? (paragraph 3)
A. They don't fly at all.
B. They fly in their larvae stage.
C. They fly in their adult stage.
D. They fly in their pupa stage.

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



Ant Lions

Name: _____

11) "My diet is completely different from my larvae stage to when I grow my wings. From ants to pollen." (paragraph 3)

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