

Insect Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts

Printable Trivia Pack

Insect trivia opens a window onto the planet's most numerous and varied animals, from familiar butterflies and beetles to extraordinary species with unusual defenses, diets, and life cycles. Studying insects has shaped fields such as ecology, agriculture, and evolution, and their long history on Earth makes them a rich source of both accessible facts and genuinely surprising discoveries.

HARD INSECT TRIVIA

1. Ronald Ross received the first Nobel Prize for work on a mosquito-borne disease in what year?

Answer: 1902

2. Which mosquito genus includes the main carriers of human malaria?

Answer: Anopheles

3. Native to much of sub-Saharan Africa, which biting fly is notorious for its medical importance?

Answer: Tsetse flies

4. What is the scientific name of the honey bee species most widely kept worldwide?

Answer: *Apis mellifera*

5. Chagas disease is classically associated with which insect vector?

Answer: A kissing bug

6. In the eastern United States, periodical cicadas are famous for appearing on which unusually long timetable?

Answer: After 13 or 17 years

7. Historically, the cochineal insect was used to produce which red dye?

Answer: Carmine

8. Shellac starts with secretions from what source?

Answer: Lac insects

9. Which moth species has males that can squeak when disturbed?

Answer: The death's-head hawkmoth

10. Which human ectoparasite can transmit epidemic typhus?

Answer: The human body louse

11. A triatomine bug is after what meal source when it feeds?

Answer: Blood

12. *Paraponera clavata* is better known by what common name?

Answer: Bullet ant

13. By number of described species, which insect order is the largest known?

Answer: Coleoptera

14. Which midge is noted for hemoglobin-like pigments in its larvae?

Answer: Chironomus

FUNNY INSECT TRIVIA

1. A group of butterflies sounds less like a crowd and more like an art exhibit. What is it sometimes called?

Answer: A kaleidoscope.

2. If ladybugs were naming their own fan club, which charming collective noun could they use?

Answer: A loveliness.

3. Dung beetles are famous for rolling balls of what very specific material?

Answer: Dung.

4. The spittlebug nymph hides in a foamy mass with what memorable nickname?

Answer: Cuckoo spit.

5. True or false: Jerusalem crickets are true crickets.?

Answer: False

6. The common name for insects in the genus Mantis includes what devotional-sounding word?

Answer: Praying.

7. Assassin bugs did not get a dramatic name by accident. It refers to what about them?

Answer: How they hunt other insects.

8. Which insect can defend itself by ejecting a hot spray, as if it took action-movie lessons?

Answer: The bombardier beetle.

9. The walking stick insect is committing to the disguise bit by looking like what plant part?

Answer: A twig.

10. When its wings are closed, the dead leaf butterfly resembles what?

Answer: A dried leaf.

11. Which insect is known for sometimes having a helmet-like shape so odd it looks bizarre even by insect standards?

Answer: The treehopper.

12. The phrase 'social butterfly' borrows its image from the familiar name of which insect?

Answer: Butterfly.

13. In the word 'bookworm,' which creature mentioned in the term is definitely not an insect?

Answer: Worms.

FUN INSECT TRIVIA

1. If silk had a birthplace label, where would silkworm domestication point?

Answer: ancient China

2. The Langstroth beehive was developed in which country?

Answer: the United States

3. Who is linked with the modern movable-frame beehive?

Answer: Lorenzo Langstroth

4. Who demonstrated that mosquitoes transmit malaria?

Answer: Ronald Ross

5. In what year was Maria Sibylla Merian's 'Metamorphosis insectorum Surinamensium' published?

Answer: 1705

6. Which multi-volume work was written by Henri Fabre?

Answer: Souvenirs Entomologiques

7. Whose late-1500s insect studies sound like the work of a very patient artist with a tiny subject list?

Answer: Joris Hoefnagel

8. Which scientist was widely known for research on ants?

Answer: E. O. Wilson

9. Who is the American entomologist known for work on insect-plant interactions?

Answer: May Berenbaum

10. If an insect's defense strategy smells like chemistry homework, which scientist became famous for studying those chemical defenses?

Answer: Thomas Eisner

11. Who helped uncover the monarch butterfly wintering sites in Mexico?

Answer: Fred Urquhart

12. Which pioneering Black American entomologist studied termites?

Answer: Margaret Collins

13. Who is known for work on wasps?

Answer: Lynn Kimsey

INSECT FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Who wrote the picture book 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'?

Answer: Eric Carle

2. Which author created 'Bee Season'?

Answer: Myla Goldberg

3. Who wrote 'The Butterfly Lion'?

Answer: Michael Morpurgo

4. Which well-known presenter hosted the television series 'Life in the Undergrowth'?

Answer: David Attenborough

5. In what year was the nature documentary 'Microcosmos' released?

Answer: 1996

6. What is the name of the central character in 'The Metamorphosis'?

Answer: Gregor Samsa

7. Who wrote 'The Metamorphosis'?

Answer: Franz Kafka

8. 'More Than Honey' is a documentary about which insects?

Answer: Bees

9. Who wrote the book 'Honeybee Democracy'?

Answer: Thomas Seeley

10. Which writer is linked with 'Silent Spring'?

Answer: Rachel Carson

11. Kids often call a firefly by what glowing nickname?

Answer: lightning bug

12. Which butterfly is famous for its long migration?

Answer: monarch butterfly

EASY INSECT TRIVIA

1. How many legs does an adult insect have?

Answer: Six legs.

2. What are the three main body parts many insects have?

Answer: Head, thorax, and abdomen.

3. A butterfly begins life as what?

Answer: An egg.

4. Before becoming a butterfly, a caterpillar changes inside what?

Answer: A pupa.

5. What helpful job do bees do when they move pollen between flowers?

Answer: They help with pollination.

6. Which insect is well known for biting people and other animals?

Answer: Mosquitoes.

7. Grasshoppers make long jumps using which legs?

Answer: Their hind legs.

8. How many pairs of wings does a dragonfly have?

Answer: Two pairs.

9. A ladybug is a kind of what?

Answer: Beetle.

10. Ants often live together in large what?

Answer: Colonies.

11. Who makes honey?

Answer: Honey bees.

12. Which insect is famous for producing light?

Answer: Fireflies.

13. True or false: Cockroaches are insects.?

Answer: True

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/insect>