

# Insects

Read about insects and then answer the questions below.

The insects are the largest group of animals. Insects live all over the world. They can survive in almost any place where food is available. Insects are members of a larger group called the arthropods. Insects have a body that is divided into segments, or sections. They have a covering on the outside of the body called an exoskeleton. This exoskeleton protects the body.

Insects have three major body segments. Insects also have six legs. This is one way that insects differ from spiders, which have eight legs. Insects also have at least one pair of antennae, or feelers.

The three major segments of an insect body are the head, the thorax, and the abdomen. The head contains the insect's antennae, mouthparts, and eyes. The thorax has three pairs of legs and usually two pairs of wings. But some insects have only one pair of wings or no wings at all. The abdomen is made up of as many as 11 segments. It contains organs that digest food, push out wastes, and help the insect reproduce.

(From: <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/insect/353292>)

1. What group of animals is an insect a part of? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Why do insects have an exoskeleton? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. How many different body parts does an insect have and what are they called?

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4. Describe three ways that you know an insect is an insect using the information you just read. \_\_\_\_\_

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