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After feasting on our dead skin, these micro-critters go through a life cycle just like any other animal. They start as eggs, then become larvae, then nymphs, and finally grow into adult dust mites. This whole process takes about a month, and adult mites can live for up to three months. That's a lot of time to munch on skin flakes!



Now, you might be wondering what dust mites have to do with humans, aside from living in our homes and eating our skin flakes. Well, while they're not harmful, some people can be allergic to them, or more specifically, their droppings and dead bodies. This can cause sneezing, itchy eyes, or a runny nose. So, while they might seem small and insignificant, dust mites play a big role in our daily lives and remind us of the diverse, fascinating world that exists even in places we can't see.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

1) What is the size of dust mites?

A. as big as a coin

B. slightly larger than a human

C. so small, you'd need a microscope to D. about the size of a mouse

see them

2) What can dust mite allergies cause?

A. headache and stomachache

B. sneezing, itchy eyes, or a runny nose

C. dizziness and fatigue D. paralysis and blindness

3) How many legs do dust mites have?

A. four B. two
C. six D. eight

4) What is the average lifespan of an adult dust mite?

A. one week B. several days

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5) What do dust mites feast on?

A. chocolate and candyB. cooked meat and vegetablesC. dead skin flakesD. fresh fruits and vegetables

6) What type of creatures are dust mites related to?

A. butterflies B. spiders

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A. only to children B. yes

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A. a few days B. a year

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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) "Believe it or not, I start my life as an egg."

12) "It only takes about a month for me to go from a nymph to an adult."



- 13) "I'm so tiny that you need a super powerful microscope to see me."
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- 15) "You know what's on my menu? Your dead skin flakes. Yummy!"
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- **20**) "Just like a butterfly, I go through different stages. I start as an egg, then I become a larva, then a nymph, and finally an adult."
- 21) "I prefer to live outside, away from human dwellings."
- 22) "I love snuggling up in the warm spots of your home, especially the bed and carpets."
- 23) "I can live for over a year!"
- 24) "I promise, I don't bite! I'm completely harmless to most of you humans."
- 25) "I typically prefer to live on hard surfaces without upholstery."
- **26**) "We can't stand human skin flakes."
- 27) "Just like the spiders you see outside, I also have eight legs."

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

- **28**) An adult dust mite can live up to three months.
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- **30**) Humans shed dead skin which dust mites eat.
- 31) The allergic reaction caused by dust mite droppings is really annoying.
- 32) Dust mites are so tiny that you need a microscope to see them.
- 33) You should try to avoid places where dust mites live.
- **34**) Some people can be allergic to dust mites.
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- **36)** It's not fair that some people are allergic to dust mites.
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Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **38)** Adult dust mites can live for up to three months.
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- **40**) Dust mites can be found in our beds, carpets, and furniture.
- **41**) Dust mites are around the size of a dime.
- 42) Dust mites feed on dead skin flakes that humans shed.
- 43) The life cycle of dust mites from eggs to adults only takes a week.
- 44) Dust mites have 6 legs and eight eyes, just like a spider.
- **45**) Dust mites never cause harm to humans.
- **46**) Some people are allergic to dust mites' droppings and dead bodies.



47) Dust mites are part of the arachnid family, just like spiders.

Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

48) They're related to spiders and ticks.

A. there areB. they areC. they wereD. they have

49) <u>It's</u> natural to think they are a little gross.

A. it is
C. it was
B. it has
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50) Dust mites <u>can't</u> be seen with our eyes.

A. can B. are not C. will not D. cannot

51) Dust mites <u>aren't</u> harmful to most people.

A. are not B. cannot C. will not D. do not

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

53) I can't believe dust mites eat our dead skin flakes!

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55) What do dust mites eat?

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60) Where do dust mites lay their eggs?

61) Dust mites don't usually cause problems for humans.

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63) It's amazing that there are thousands of different species of mites!

64) List some places where dust mites can be found.

Determine which choice is the conclusion that can be drawn from the statement.



- **65**) Dust mites thrive in warm, humid environments. What conclusion can be drawn based on this information?
 - A. Dust mites prefer dry and cold climates.
 - C. All warm, humid places are infested with dust mites.
- B. Reducing humidity and warmth in the house may reduce dust mites.
- D. Dust mites can survive in freezing temperatures.
- **66)** Dust mites are too small to be seen without a microscope. What conclusion can be drawn from this statement?
 - A. Dust mites are extremely small organisms.
 - C. Dust mites are the only mites that can't be seen with the naked eye.
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- D. Dust mites are the smallest organisms on Earth.
- 67) Dust mites are tiny creatures that commonly live in house dust. Based on this statement, what conclusion can be drawn about where dust mites live?
 - A. Dust mites are found primarily in water.
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		Dust Mites	5	Ν	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			

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Dust Mites

Name: Answer Key

1.	C	26.	false	51.	A
2.	B	27.	true	52.	C
3.	D	28.	fact	53.	exclamatory
4.	C	29.	opinion	54.	imperative
5.	C	30.	fact	55.	interrogative
6.	В	31.	opinion	56.	exclamatory
7.	C	32.	fact	57.	declarative
8.	C	33.	opinion	58.	interrogative
9.	A	34.	fact	59.	declarative
10.	D	35.	fact	60.	interrogative
11.	true	36.	opinion	61.	declarative
12.	true	37.	opinion	62.	imperative
13.	true	38.	true	63.	exclamatory
14.	false	39.	false	64.	imperative
15.	true	40.	true	65.	В
16.	false	41.	false	66.	A
17.	false	42.	true	67.	D
18.	true	43.	false	68.	D
19.	true	44.	false	69.	A
20.	true	45.	false		
21.	false	46.	true		
22.	true	47.	true		
23.	false	48.	В		
24.	true	49.	A		
25.	false	50.	D		



Solve each problem.

IJ	se	the	artic	le to	answer	the	question.
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1) What is the size of dust mites? (paragraph 1)

A. B. slightly larger than a human

C. so small, you'd need a microscope to D.

see them

2) What can dust mite allergies cause? (paragraph 4)

A. headache and stomachache

B. sneezing, itchy eyes, or a runny nose

C. D.

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C. D. eight

4) What is the average lifespan of an adult dust mite? (paragraph 3)

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C. up to three months D.

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C. dead skin flakes D.

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C. D.

7) Are dust mites harmful to most people? (paragraph 1)

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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).

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