



Imagine walking in the forest and spotting a creature with hundreds of tiny legs, that's a millipede! These amazing little critters are invertebrates, meaning they don't have a backbone, and are known for their long, cylindrical bodies covered in hard shells. Each segment of their body has two pairs of legs, so when they move, it looks like a wave motion! They come in many colors, from black to brown, and even eye-catching shades of orange or red.



The fascinating wave motion mentioned earlier helps millipedes thrive in their homes. Their habitats are usually moist places like under leaves, in the soil, or within decayed logs, where they stay during the day. At night, they become more active, crawling out to munch on their favorite foods, mainly decaying plant material, but they've also been known to eat insects. These creatures prefer to live where there's plenty of their favorite meals, making them super important for composting and recycling nutrients in the environment.

Just like us humans, millipedes have a life cycle, but it's a bit different from ours. They start as eggs, laid in the soil, and when they hatch, they only have a few segments and legs. As they grow and molt - that's when they shed their skin - they add more segments and legs until they become adults. In some species, this process can take up to two years, and they can live for several years after that.



You might be wondering what happens if a predator tries to snack on them. Well, they have a cool defense mechanism - when threatened, they curl up into a tight coil to protect their soft undersides with their hard outer shell. Some species can also release a foul-smelling and tasting liquid to deter predators. So, while they might not win any races with their many tiny legs, millipedes sure are fascinating creatures playing an important role in our ecosystems.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What is the shape of a millipede's body?
A. Cylindrical B. Flat
C. Oval D. Round
- 2) Where would you normally NOT find millipedes during the day?
A. Under leaves B. On top of rocks
C. Inside tree trunks D. Within decayed logs
- 3) Where are millipede eggs laid?
A. in trees B. in rotting fruits
C. in the water D. in the soil
- 4) Millipedes are invertebrates. What does being an invertebrate mean?
A. Millipedes have bones on the outside B. Millipedes have vertebrates inside
C. Millipedes don't have a backbone D. Millipedes have multiple backbones
- 5) What can some millipedes do to defend themselves when threatened?
A. Excrete a very potent toxin from their skin B. Spit a black sticky goo
C. Make a loud screaming noise D. Release a foul-smelling and tasting liquid
- 6) What do millipedes eat?
A. decaying plant material B. fresh fruits
C. the blood of humans D. smaller mammals
- 7) What is molting?
A. when millipedes gain their wings B. when millipedes eat a lot of food
C. when millipedes build their nests D. when millipedes shed their skin
- 8) How long can some millipedes live?
A. up to five months B. up to one year
C. several years D. only a few weeks
- 9) What color are millipedes?
A. Many colors B. Only black
C. Only red or brown D. Only brown
- 10) What defense may millipedes do when they feel threatened?
A. play dead B. detach 1 or 2 of their segments
C. curl up into a tight coil D. spit a black ooze

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

- 11) "I have one pair of legs on each segment."
- 12) "I adore open and dry places."
- 13) "I can be black, brown, or even bright orange or red! Look at my colors!"



- 14) "I only have 6 of legs."
- 15) "Decaying plants and insects, yuck! I prefer fresh food."
- 16) "I don't care much for the ground; I prefer staying in trees."
- 17) "My favorite food is decaying plant materials and sometimes insects. I feed on them, mainly at nighttime."
- 18) "It can take me up to two years to grow up and I can live for many years after."
- 19) "Did you know? I don't have a backbone! That's what being an invertebrate is all about."
- 20) "I don't change much as I grow."
- 21) "I thrive in sunny and dry conditions."
- 22) "I like to show my soft belly to predators."
- 23) "I always stay in moist environments, you might find me under piles of leaves or decayed logs during the day."
- 24) "I only eat fresh vegetables."
- 25) "When I feel threatened, I can release a bad-smelling and tasting liquid to keep predators away."
- 26) "During my growth, each time I shed my skin, I also add more legs and segments!"
- 27) "When I hatch from an egg, I don't look quite like the millipede you know! But with time, I gain more segments and legs until I am all grown up."
- 28) "I was born with all my segments and legs."
- 29) "I have a long body covered in a hard shell, and my hundreds of little legs move together like a wave."
- 30) "If a predator comes near, I curl my soft belly within my hard shell to remain safe."

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

- 31) When millipedes are growing, they shed their skin and add more segments and legs.
- 32) The fact that millipedes curl up into a tight coil to protect themselves is very clever.
- 33) Millipedes frequently live in moist places like under leaves or within rotting logs.
- 34) Millipedes with their hundreds of tiny legs are such peculiar creatures.
- 35) Millipedes are creatures that have no backbone.
- 36) Millipedes' life cycle process of adding more segments and legs as they grow is very interesting.
- 37) Some millipedes can release a bad smelling and tasting liquid to drive off predators.
- 38) Each segment of a millipede's body has two pairs of legs.
- 39) The wave like motion millipedes make when they move is truly fascinating.
- 40) Bright colored millipedes look much cooler than the dull ones.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 41) Millipedes can live up to two years.
- 42) When threatened, millipedes stand tall and make a loud noise.
- 43) Millipedes are invertebrates.
- 44) Each segment of a millipede's body has 4 pairs of legs.
- 45) Millipedes can only be found in wet places like under leaves or within decayed logs.
- 46) Millipedes are only black in color.
- 47) When millipedes hatch they look like tiny adults.
- 48) During the day, millipedes are most active.



Milipedes

Name: _____

49) Some species of millipedes can release a foul-smelling liquid to deter predators.
50) Millipedes have hundreds of tiny legs.

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

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

- 56) It's astonishing that millipedes can live up to 10 years!
- 57) Observe how millipedes curl up into a tight ball when they feel threatened.
- 58) How do millipedes protect themselves?
- 59) It's amazing that millipedes have been on earth for over 400 million years!
- 60) Millipedes live in damp, dark places like under rocks and in decaying wood.
- 61) How many legs do millipedes have?
- 62) Millipedes curl up into a spiral shape and can release a smelly liquid when threatened.
- 63) How many segments do millipedes have on their body?
- 64) Most millipedes are harmless to humans and do not bite or sting.
- 65) Share your knowledge about millipedes with your friends or classmates.
- 66) It's amazing how millipedes help break down and recycle organic matter!
- 67) Always wash your hands after touching a millipede.



Milipedes

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. _____

18. _____ 43. _____

19. _____ 44. _____

20. _____ 45. _____

21. _____ 46. _____

22. _____ 47. _____

23. _____ 48. _____

24. _____ 49. _____

25. _____ 50. _____



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1.	A	26.	Would	51.	B
2.	B	27.	Would	52.	A
3.	D	28.	Not	53.	D
4.	C	29.	Would	54.	A
5.	D	30.	Would	55.	C
6.	A	31.	fact	56.	exclamatory
7.	D	32.	opinion	57.	imperative
8.	C	33.	fact	58.	interrogative
9.	A	34.	opinion	59.	exclamatory
10.	C	35.	fact	60.	declarative
11.	Not	36.	opinion	61.	interrogative
12.	Not	37.	fact	62.	declarative
13.	Would	38.	fact	63.	interrogative
14.	Not	39.	opinion	64.	declarative
15.	Not	40.	opinion	65.	imperative
16.	Not	41.	true	66.	exclamatory
17.	Would	42.	false	67.	imperative
18.	Would	43.	true		
19.	Would	44.	false		
20.	Not	45.	true		
21.	Not	46.	false		
22.	Not	47.	false		
23.	Would	48.	false		
24.	Not	49.	true		
25.	Would	50.	true		

**Solve each problem.****Use the article to answer the question.**

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A. Cylindrical B. Flat
C. D.
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