



Say hello to our tiny, chirping friend, the house cricket! These little creatures are usually light brown in color and have six legs with two long antennae on their heads. They grow up to be about an inch long and have wings, although they prefer to hop rather than fly. If you look really closely, you might even see the lines on their body, which look like a pattern of tiny dots!



Remember those interesting patterns we talked about? Well, our house cricket pals use those patterns, along with their brown color, to hide from predators in their natural habitats. They can be found all around the world, but tend to make their homes in warm environments, often hiding in cracks, crevices, or under stones during the day. At night, when it's safer, they come out to look for food, munching on plants, fabric and even other insects!

Speaking of food, did you know that the cycle of life for these crickets starts from an egg? A female house cricket can lay hundreds of eggs that hatch into tiny baby crickets called nymphs, and these nymphs then grow into adults in just a few weeks. Despite their small size, house crickets have a big role in the ecosystem, serving as food for a variety of animals like birds, spiders, and even other insects. They also help break down plant material, returning important nutrients back to the soil.



You might have guessed from their name that house crickets can sometimes be found in our homes, too. They are not harmful to humans, and some people even keep them as pets or use them as food for their pet reptiles. While their constant chirping can be annoying for some, in many cultures around the world, the chirping of crickets is considered to be a sign of good luck. So next time you see a house cricket, remember, they're not just tiny creatures, they're an important part of our big, wide world!

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

- 1) What color are house crickets?
A. brown B. red C. black D. green
- 2) How many legs do crickets have?
A. Ten B. Eight C. Four D. Six
- 3) What do crickets have on their body that is hard to see?
A. A checkboard pattern B. A pattern of stripes
C. Tiny dots D. A single stripe
- 4) What is the first stage of the life cycle of a house cricket?
A. adult B. pupa C. larva D. egg
- 5) What is the cultural significance of the chirping of crickets?
A. a warning of danger B. a call for rain
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- 6) How long do house crickets grow to be?
A. about an inch B. half an inch C. two inches D. three inches
- 7) Where do house crickets make their homes during the day?
A. tree branches B. cracks, crevices, or under stones
C. inside leaves D. burrows in the ground
- 8) How long does it take for house cricket nymphs to grow into adults?
A. a few days B. a few weeks C. a few years D. a few months
- 9) How do crickets prefer to get around?
A. Walking B. Flying with their wings
C. Scooting on their belly D. Hopping with their legs
- 10) Are house crickets harmful to humans?
A. only the males B. only the females C. yes D. no

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

- 11) "I love living in cold environments."
- 12) "My lifespan is very long, lasting for several years."
- 13) "Our life begins small, from an egg laid by our moms. In just few weeks we grow into adults."
- 14) "I don't have wings."
- 15) "My chirping is considered bad luck in many cultures."
- 16) "I do not eat plants."
- 17) "My chirping might be noise to you, but in many cultures, people think it's a sign of good luck."
- 18) "I'm always on the lookout for a nice, cozy stone to hide under during the day."
- 19) "I'm a creature of the night! When it's dark, I come out to hunt for food."
- 20) "I don't like warm environments."
- 21) "The number of eggs I lay is very low, usually only 10 or 20."



House Crickets

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. _____ 68. _____
19. _____ 44. _____
20. _____ 45. _____
21. _____ 46. _____
22. _____ 47. _____
23. _____ 48. _____
24. _____ 49. _____
25. _____ 50. _____



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- 53) House crickets don't like being active during the day.
 - A. can not
 - B. are not
 - C. will not
 - D. do not
- 54) They're often found in warm, damp places.
 - A. They are
 - B. They were
 - C. They will
 - D. They do
- 55) Crickets can't chirp if they're too cold.
 - A. are not
 - B. do not
 - C. cannot
 - D. will not

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

- 56) Consider keeping a cricket as a pet or using them as fishing bait.
- 57) Do crickets have wings?
- 58) Keep the cricket container clean and well-ventilated.
- 59) Wow, house crickets can survive without food for up to two weeks!
- 60) It's incredible how house crickets can jump so high!
- 61) House crickets eat plants, fruits, and other insects.
- 62) They can be found indoors and outdoors in warm and moist places.
- 63) When are house crickets most active?
- 64) They are nocturnal and most active during the night.
- 65) Crickets can jump very high.
- 66) Search for crickets in your basement or kitchen.
- 67) What a loud chirping sound crickets make!
- 68) Where can you find house crickets?



- | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------------|
| 1. | A | 26. | Would | 51. | B |
| 2. | D | 27. | Would | 52. | A |
| 3. | C | 28. | Not | 53. | D |
| 4. | D | 29. | Would | 54. | A |
| 5. | D | 30. | Would | 55. | C |
| 6. | A | 31. | fact | 56. | imperative |
| 7. | B | 32. | opinion | 57. | interrogative |
| 8. | B | 33. | fact | 58. | imperative |
| 9. | D | 34. | opinion | 59. | exclamatory |
| 10. | D | 35. | fact | 60. | exclamatory |
| 11. | Not | 36. | opinion | 61. | declarative |
| 12. | Not | 37. | fact | 62. | declarative |
| 13. | Would | 38. | fact | 63. | interrogative |
| 14. | Not | 39. | opinion | 64. | declarative |
| 15. | Not | 40. | opinion | 65. | declarative |
| 16. | Not | 41. | true | 66. | imperative |
| 17. | Would | 42. | false | 67. | exclamatory |
| 18. | Would | 43. | true | 68. | interrogative |
| 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 | | |



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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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