



Ever wondered about the fascinating creature known as the scorpion fly? These unique insects get their name from their long, scorpion-like tails, but don't worry, they're not as scary as they sound! Scorpion flies have a long beak-like mouth, two pairs of wings, and an elongated body that ends with a tail that resembles a scorpion's stinger. Despite their intimidating appearance, these insects are completely harmless to humans.

Now, you might be wondering where these winged wonders like to call home. Scorpion flies are found all over the world, from the forests of Asia and Europe to the grasslands of North America. They prefer moist environments and are often found in damp, overgrown areas where they can hide from predators. Interesting, isn't it? Scorpion flies can adapt and live in diverse environments!

Speaking of predators, let's dive into the fascinating diet and defenses of our scorpion fly friends. These insects are scavengers and enjoy feasting on dead insects, plant material, and sometimes even fruits. When faced with danger, scorpion flies use their scorpion-like tails as a defense mechanism to scare off predators. However, this tail is all for show, as unlike real scorpions, scorpion flies don't have any venom.

Finally, let's explore the life cycle of these intriguing insects. Scorpion flies go through a process called metamorphosis, where they change from a tiny egg to a larva, then to a pupa before finally becoming an adult scorpion fly. This process is a common aspect among insects but it's always exciting to learn about. And there you have it, a peek into the fascinating life of scorpion flies, insects that are as interesting as they are unique!



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

- 1) Can a scorpion fly hurt a human?
 - A. No, scorpion flies are harmless to humans.
 - B. Yes, scorpion flies carry harmful diseases.
 - C. Yes, a scorpion fly sting is very painful.
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- 2) Where would you most likely find scorpion flies in the wild?
 - A. Mountains of South America
 - B. Deserts of Africa
 - C. Jungles of Antarctica
 - D. Forests of Asia

- 3) Can scorpion flies be found in overgrown areas?
 - A. No, overgrown areas are too wet for them.
 - B. No, they can only be found in open, sunny areas.
 - C. No, they avoid overgrown areas because of predators.
 - D. Yes, Scorpion flies are often found in damp, overgrown areas.

- 4) How many wings do scorpion flies have?
 - A. 6 wings
 - B. 8 wings
 - C. 4 wings
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- 5) What process do scorpion flies go through as they grow?
 - A. They go through a process called migration.
 - B. They go through a process called metamorphosis.
 - C. They go through a process called hibernation.
 - D. They go through a process called photosynthesis.

- 6) What environments do scorpion flies prefer?
 - A. Scorpion flies prefer dry, desert environments.
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- 7) Which choice do scorpion flies not eat?
 - A. Fruit
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 - A. Scorpion flies use their scorpion-like tails to scare off predators.
 - B. They use their bright colors to frighten predators.
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- 9) Do scorpion flies' tails have venom?
 - A. Yes, they are very venomous
 - B. No, they don't have any venom
 - C. They only produce venom when they are older
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- 10) Why is the insect called a scorpion fly?
- A. Because it can sting like a scorpion. B. Because it has a long, scorpion-like tail.
- C. Because it eats scorpions. D. Because it is a type of scorpion.

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

- 11) "I know it sounds a bit yucky, but as a scavenger, I enjoy feasting on dead insects."
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- 14) "I love making my home in damp, overgrown areas where I can easily hide from predators."
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- 19) "My long curved tail makes me look like a scorpion, but I promise I'm not as scary."
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- 24) "I love living in dry environments."
- 25) "Plant material and fruits are not part of my diet."
- 26) "I start my life as a tiny egg, then become a larva and a pupa, before I finally turn into a scorpion fly."

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

- 27) Scorpion flies are flexible and can adapt to live in a variety of environments.
- 28) The fact that scorpion flies defense mechanism do not involve stinging is surprising.
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- 31) Scorpion flies have a tail at the end of their body that looks like a scorpion's stinger.
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36) The long beak-like mouth of a scorpion fly is cool looking.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 37) Scorpion flies enjoy eating fruits.
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|---------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. <u> A </u> | 26. <u> true </u> | 51. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 2. <u> D </u> | 27. <u> fact </u> | 52. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 3. <u> D </u> | 28. <u> opinion </u> | 53. <u> interrogative </u> |
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| 21. <u> false </u> | 46. <u> true </u> | |
| 22. <u> true </u> | 47. <u> declarative </u> | |
| 23. <u> true </u> | 48. <u> interrogative </u> | |
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| 25. <u> false </u> | 50. <u> declarative </u> | |

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