



Did you know there are bugs that were once considered sacred in ancient Egypt? Those bugs are called scarab beetles and they have an extraordinary shiny armor that can be in different colors like green, brown, or even gold. They are small, usually less than 6 inches long, and have strong wings hidden under their hard shell. These beetles are famous for their unusual round shape, which makes them look like a tiny ball.

From being shaped like a little ball, let's roll into the life of scarab beetles. These little creatures love warm environments and you can find them in every continent except Antarctica. Just like us, they go through a life cycle - from being an egg, then a larva, a pupa, and finally, an adult beetle. Believe it or not, most of their life is spent as a larva, munching on a variety of things from plants, fruits, to even animal dung!

Speaking of munching on dung, scarab beetles have an interesting relationship with other animals and even humans. Some types of scarab beetles, called dung beetles, play a big role in the environment by cleaning up animal waste. These beetles roll up the dung into a ball and carry it away to feed their young, which helps in recycling nutrients back into the soil. In ancient Egypt, people admired scarab beetles so much that they made jewelry and amulets in their shape.



Now that we've looked at their life and their importance, let's dive into how scarab beetles protect themselves. To avoid predators, these beetles can fly away or hide under the soil. Some scarab beetles have strong jaws which they can use to bite if they feel threatened. So there you have it, the scarab beetles aren't just shiny bugs, they are nature's little cleaners and ancient symbols of transformation.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What is special about scarab beetles in history?
 - A. They were responsible for many deaths in Europe
 - B. They were once used as currency in Rome.
 - C. They were considered sacred in Egypt.
 - D. They were originally only found in Antarctica.

- 2) What is the first stage in a scarab beetle's life?
 - A. Adult Beetle
 - B. Pupa
 - C. Larva
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- 3) What is the size of scarab beetles?
 - A. They are around a foot long
 - B. Usually about a meter
 - C. Shorter than 6 inches
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- 4) Which choice is not a place scarab beetles are found?
 - A. Africa
 - B. Antarctica
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- 5) What type of scarab beetle is known for eating animal waste?
 - A. June Bugs
 - B. Dung Beetles
 - C. Rhinoceros Beetle
 - D. Goliath Beetles

- 6) How do scarab beetles protect themselves from predators?
 - A. They release a foul-smelling odor
 - B. They play dead
 - C. They can fly away or hide under the soil
 - D. They disguise themselves as other bugs

- 7) What stage does the scarab beetle spend most of its life?
 - A. As a larva
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- 8) Which do scarab beetle larvae NOT eat?
 - A. Fruits
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- 9) What feature do some scarab beetles have to defend themselves?
 - A. Venomous stinger
 - B. Sharp spikes on their shells
 - C. Strong jaws to bite with
 - D. Sticky webs

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

- 10) "I can't fly but I am a very quick crawler."
- 11) "In ancient Egypt, no one really cared much for us scarab beetles."
- 12) "To protect myself, I can bite if I need to!"



- 13) "My life begins as an egg, then I turn into a larva, to becoming a pupa, and finally, a mature beetle."
- 14) "I am really big, bigger than most insects."
- 15) "My cousin, the dung beetle, uses dung to feed their young. Yuck!"
- 16) "If danger's near, I can either hide under the soil or fly away using my strong wings!"
- 17) "I like cool environments and prefer to live in Antarctica."
- 18) "You can mostly find me in cold environments."
- 19) "I was born looking the same as my adult self, just smaller!"
- 20) "I was considered a symbol of destruction in ancient Egypt."
- 21) "My life mostly consists of eating, and as a larva, I munch on plants, fruits, and even animal dung."
- 22) "In ancient Egypt, I was so greatly admired that they made jewelry and amulets in my shape."
- 23) "My shiny shell comes in a whole range of colors like green, brown, or gold!"
- 24) "Some of us, called dung beetles, play a big role in cleaning up animal waste!"
- 25) "While growing up, I enjoy my adult stage the most as it's the longest part of my life."
- 26) "While my shell looks like a solid piece of armor, I actually use it to hide my wings."
- 27) "You can find my kind in every continent, except for the chilly Antarctica!"

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

- 28) Most of the life of scarab beetles is spent as a larva, eating things like plants, fruits, and animal dung.
- 29) Scarab beetles are fascinating because they can be of different colors like green and brown.
- 30) Scarab beetles can be found on every continent except Antarctica.
- 31) Scarab beetles are incredible because they can fly and hide under the soil.
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- 33) It is interesting that a scarab beetle spends most of its life as a larva.
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- 35) Scarab beetles have strong wings that are hidden under their hard shell.
- 36) You would be amazed to see how tiny these Scarab beetles are.
- 37) Their round shape makes scarab beetles cuter than other insects.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 38) Scarab beetles were once considered sacred in ancient Egypt.
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Scarab Beetles

Name: _____

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 28. _____ | 53. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 29. _____ | 54. _____ |
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- 44) In ancient Egypt, people despised scarab beetles.
- 45) Scarab beetles spend most of their life as adults.
- 46) Scarab beetles have a hard shell.
- 47) Some scarab beetles clean up the environment by rolling up animal waste.

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

- 48) Scarab beetles can't fly very far, but they're still pretty good at moving around.
 - A. will not
 - B. cannot
 - C. do not
 - D. are not
- 49) It's amazing how scarab beetles can help the environment by breaking down waste.
 - A. It is
 - B. It was
 - C. It has
 - D. It does
- 50) Scarab beetles aren't just found in Egypt, they're found all over the world.
 - A. they were
 - B. they do
 - C. they have
 - D. they are
- 51) These beetles don't just eat plants and fruits, they also eat decomposing materials.
 - A. do not
 - B. cannot
 - C. are not
 - D. will not
- 52) Did you know there's a type of scarab beetle called the dung beetle?
 - A. there were
 - B. there are
 - C. there is
 - D. there has

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

- 53) The fact that some Scarab beetles eat dung is disgusting!
- 54) Understand why ancient Egyptians considered scarab beetles to be sacred.
- 55) What colors can scarab beetles be?
- 56) The strength of scarab beetles is astonishing, they can lift over 1,000 times their own weight!
- 57) Scarab beetles have a long history with humans.
- 58) Do scarab beetles have wings?
- 59) Scarab beetles are unique creatures with special skills.
- 60) Why were scarab beetles considered sacred in ancient Egypt?
- 61) Scarab beetles help clean the planet by breaking down waste.
- 62) Research how scarab beetles play a vital role in the ecosystem by being decomposers.
- 63) It's amazing how scarab beetles were considered sacred in Ancient Egypt!
- 64) Be careful not to disturb the scarab beetles' natural habitat.



- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u> C </u> | 26. <u> true </u> | 51. <u> A </u> |
| 2. <u> D </u> | 27. <u> true </u> | 52. <u> C </u> |
| 3. <u> C </u> | 28. <u> fact </u> | 53. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 4. <u> B </u> | 29. <u> opinion </u> | 54. <u> imperative </u> |
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| 6. <u> C </u> | 31. <u> opinion </u> | 56. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 7. <u> A </u> | 32. <u> fact </u> | 57. <u> declarative </u> |
| 8. <u> B </u> | 33. <u> opinion </u> | 58. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 9. <u> C </u> | 34. <u> fact </u> | 59. <u> declarative </u> |
| 10. <u> false </u> | 35. <u> fact </u> | 60. <u> interrogative </u> |
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| 22. <u> true </u> | 47. <u> true </u> | |
| 23. <u> true </u> | 48. <u> B </u> | |
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| 25. <u> false </u> | 50. <u> D </u> | |

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