



Picture this, a little bug that's shaped like a shield, with a marbled pattern of grey and brown - that's our friend the stink bug! Although small in size, these critters are quite noticeable due to their unique shape and the smelly secret they carry. Stink bugs, also known as shield bugs, have their name for a reason, and it's not because they love the smell of fresh flowers! If you've never seen one, just think of a tiny knight carrying a shield on its back, that can surprise you with a not-so-pleasant smell!

Now, let's imagine taking a stroll in a stink bug's shoes, or rather, on its six tiny legs. These bugs love to munch on a variety of plants and crops, with a particular fondness for fruits, vegetables, and other plants we humans also enjoy. They use their needle-like mouths to pierce the skin of their chosen meal and suck out the juice, yummy! So, while they may be a bit smelly, they're just looking for their next delicious meal, just like you and me!

Just like butterflies, these little shield carriers go through a process called metamorphosis. They start out as eggs, then hatch into nymphs (a young bug that isn't quite an adult yet), before finally becoming adult stink bugs. And just like us, they sometimes have to deal with roommates, as they often share their living spaces with other bugs and insects. They're quite the social critters, often gathering in large groups, especially when it's time to hibernate during the winter months.



You might be wondering how these little bugs got their stinky reputation. Well, when they feel threatened or scared, stink bugs release a nasty odor from special glands on their abdomen. This smelly defense mechanism is what keeps predators, and sometimes curious humans, at bay! So next time you see a stink bug, remember it's just a tiny plant lover with a large shield, leading an interesting bug life and keeping the world smelling, well, interesting!



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What color is a stink bug?
A. Grey and brown
B. Red with black
C. Green and yellow
D. Blue with orange
- 2) Where do stink bugs release their smell from?
A. From their abdomen
B. From their tails
C. From their mouths
D. From their eyes
- 3) Why are stink bugs called stink bugs?
A. They like to live in garbage
B. They release a smelly odor
C. They eat smelly food
D. They live on stink flowers
- 4) What do stink bugs release when they feel threatened?
A. A bright light
B. A loud noise
C. A sticky goo
D. A nasty odor
- 5) What do stink bugs do during the winter months?
A. Hibernate in large groups
B. Sleep alone in trees
C. Migrate south for the winter
D. Stay active and continue eating
- 6) What is the shape of a stink bug?
A. Square
B. Shield
C. Circle
D. Triangle
- 7) What do stink bugs eat?
A. Other smaller insects
B. fish and other aquatic animals
C. soil and dirt
D. Plants and crops
- 8) How do stink bugs eat their food?
A. They absorb nutrients through their skin
B. They chew with their strong teeth
C. They use their needle-like mouths to pierce the skin and suck out the juice
D. They swallow their food whole
- 9) How many legs do stink bugs have?
A. Stink bugs have ten legs.
B. Stink bugs have eight legs.
C. Stink bugs have four legs.
D. Stink bugs have six legs.
- 10) What process do stink bugs go through as they grow?
A. Evaporation
B. Photosynthesis
C. Metamorphosis
D. Reduction

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

- 11) "I take a long nap during the summer months."



- 12) "I have a really nice smell that attracts everyone."
- 13) "I have special glands that produce a stinky smell. Hence my name."
- 14) "I am small, but quite noticeable. My unique boy shape stands out. I look like a little shield."
- 15) "I can't stand fruits and vegetables, I only eat meat."
- 16) "I am often seen in groups, with other stink bugs. We stink bugs love some company."
- 17) "I use my needle-like mouth to pierce and drink the juice of fruits and vegetables. It's my way of eating, quite unique isn't it?"
- 18) "I have a mouth just like humans to eat my food."
- 19) "My favorite food is other bugs."
- 20) "I like to go out and eat during the winter, not hibernate."
- 21) "I don't like hanging out with other bugs, I prefer being alone."
- 22) "Did you know that I have something in common with a bear? We both hibernate during the winter."
- 23) "When I want to eat, I look for a variety of plants, especially those lovely fruits and vegetables. They're my favorite."
- 24) "In my world, sharing living spaces with fellow bugs isn't a big deal. We like hanging out together."
- 25) "When I feel scared or threatened, that's when I release my smelly defense mechanism to keep predators and curious humans away."
- 26) "When I was a baby, I looked just like an adult stink bug."
- 27) "We have a process called metamorphosis, where we change from an egg into a young bug, and then into an adult stink bug."
- 28) "My appearance is quite charming, right? I have a pattern of grey and brown that looks like a marbled design."

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

- 29) Stink bugs main source of energy is consuming fruits, vegetables, and other similar plants.
- 30) Stink bugs are the most interesting bugs due to their love for eating juicy fruits and vegetables.
- 31) The stink bug uses a needle-like mouth to munch on a variety of plants and crops.
- 32) The odor stink bugs produce is the worst kind of smell in the bug world.
- 33) Stink bugs are small and have a shield-like shape with a grey and brown marbled pattern.
- 34) The most interesting thing about stink bugs is how they manage to hibernate together during the winter month.
- 35) When stink bugs feel threatened, they release an unpleasant odor from glands on their abdomen.
- 36) Stink bugs are famous because they can release a foul smell.
- 37) Stink bugs look neat because of their shield-like shape.
- 38) Stink bugs are scary because they can release a nasty odor when threatened.



Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 39) Stink bugs go through a process called metamorphosis.
- 40) Stink bugs prefer to eat other bugs.
- 41) Stink bugs are known to gather in large groups during winter.
- 42) Stink bugs use their strong teeth to chew their food.
- 43) Stink bugs have a fondness for fruits.
- 44) Stink bugs are solitary bugs and will defend their home from intruders.
- 45) Stink bugs hibernate during the summer months.
- 46) Stink bugs got their name because they make their home in animal dung.
- 47) Stink bugs release a nasty odor when they feel scared.
- 48) Stink bugs can have a marbled pattern of grey and brown.

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

- 49) It's amazing that stink bugs can live in various climates and survive both in hot summers and cold winters!
- 50) If you spot a stink bug in your home, gently catch and release it outside.
- 51) How does the life cycle of a stink bug begin?
- 52) Yuck, stink bugs feed on plant sap!
- 53) Stink bugs are small, shield-shaped insects.
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- 56) Why are they called stink bugs?
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- 58) Please be careful not to crush a stink bug.
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| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
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|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u> A </u> | 26. <u> false </u> | 51. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 2. <u> A </u> | 27. <u> true </u> | 52. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 3. <u> B </u> | 28. <u> true </u> | 53. <u> declarative </u> |
| 4. <u> D </u> | 29. <u> fact </u> | 54. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 5. <u> A </u> | 30. <u> opinion </u> | 55. <u> declarative </u> |
| 6. <u> B </u> | 31. <u> fact </u> | 56. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 7. <u> D </u> | 32. <u> opinion </u> | 57. <u> declarative </u> |
| 8. <u> C </u> | 33. <u> fact </u> | 58. <u> imperative </u> |
| 9. <u> D </u> | 34. <u> opinion </u> | 59. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 10. <u> C </u> | 35. <u> fact </u> | 60. <u> imperative </u> |
| 11. <u> false </u> | 36. <u> fact </u> | |
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| 14. <u> true </u> | 39. <u> true </u> | |
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| 16. <u> true </u> | 41. <u> true </u> | |
| 17. <u> true </u> | 42. <u> false </u> | |
| 18. <u> false </u> | 43. <u> true </u> | |
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| 20. <u> false </u> | 45. <u> false </u> | |
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| 22. <u> true </u> | 47. <u> true </u> | |
| 23. <u> true </u> | 48. <u> true </u> | |
| 24. <u> true </u> | 49. <u> exclamatory </u> | |
| 25. <u> true </u> | 50. <u> imperative </u> | |



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- 1) What color is a stink bug? (paragraph 1)
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