



Ever wondered about the largest insects on Earth? Meet the Goliath beetles, a true giant in the bug world! These amazing creatures can grow up to 4 inches long, almost the size of a standard business card. They're known for their shiny, armor-like exoskeleton that can be black, brown, or silvery white. They also have unique, patterned wings that they can hide under a hard outer shell when they're not flying. Isn't that incredible? Plus, they've got these big, strong jaws that they use for munching on their favorite foods.



Speaking of munching, let's dive into the diet of these fascinating giants. Like most kids, these beetles are big fans of fruit, especially sweet ones like bananas, apples, and peaches. But they're not picky eaters; they also enjoy tree sap and even animal dung. Yuck! When they're larvae, or baby beetles, they eat a lot of protein-rich foods to grow big and strong.

Now that we know what they eat, let's explore where these critters call home. The Goliath beetles are African natives, living in the warm, tropical forests of countries like Congo, Zambia, and Gabon. They spend their days hiding in the soil or in tree trunks, and at night, they come out to search for food. These beetles, believe it or not, are pretty good climbers, using their strong legs to climb trees and find yummy treats.



Alright, we've learned a lot about Goliath beetles, but let's check out how they interact with other animals and us humans. In the wild, these beetles have to watch out for birds and other insects who might see them as a tasty snack. As for us humans, we mostly leave them alone, but some people do keep them as exotic pets. So, next time you see a Goliath beetle, remember they're not just big bugs, but fascinating creatures with a unique way of life. Isn't nature amazing?

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

- 1) How big can a Goliath beetle grow?
 - A. Up to 6 inches long
 - B. Up to 8 inches long
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- 2) When do goliath beetles search for food?
 - A. In the early morning
 - B. At night
 - C. During the day
 - D. In the late afternoon
- 3) What other food do Goliath beetles enjoy apart from fruits?
 - A. Tree sap and animal dung
 - B. Seeds and nuts
 - C. Insects and small animals
 - D. Fish and seafood
- 4) Where are Goliath beetles from?
 - A. European grasslands
 - B. South American rainforests
 - C. Asian bamboo forests
 - D. African tropical forests
- 5) What is the Goliath beetle's favorite food?
 - A. Insects
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 - C. Grass
 - D. Fruit
- 6) What colors can a Goliath beetle's exoskeleton be?
 - A. Black, brown, or white
 - B. Orange, gray, or teal
 - C. Red, blue, or green
 - D. Purple, yellow, or pink
- 7) What do baby Goliath beetles, or larvae, eat to grow big and strong?
 - A. Worms, and other invertebrates
 - B. Sugary, sweet foods
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 - A. In bird nests or in beehives
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- 9) How do humans interact with Goliath beetles?
 - A. Humans avoid them, because they release foul smelling odors
 - B. Some people keep them as exotic pets
 - C. Humans actively try to kill them since they are pests
 - D. Humans place them in their gardens because they scare away birds
- 10) What animals are likely to eat Goliath beetles in the wild?
 - A. Fish and reptiles
 - B. Lions and elephants
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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).

- 11) "I only live in desert areas."



- 12) "Climbing trees is impossible for me."
- 13) "I'm not really a day bug."
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- 16) "You might find it weird, but I also enjoy eating tree sap and even animal dung!"
- 17) "If you are looking for me, head to the warm tropical forests of countries like Congo, Zambia, and Gabon."
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- 20) "Birds are my best friends in the wild."
- 21) "I fly around during the day."
- 22) "I prefer to spend my days hiding in the soil."
- 23) "Can you imagine munching on your favorite fruit all day? That's how I live, enjoying sweet treats like bananas and apples!"
- 24) "You might think we beetles are small, but I can grow up to be the size of a business card!"
- 25) "I've gotta watch out for birds and other bugs, they might want to have me as their snack."
- 26) "I'm a vegetarian and only eat leaves."
- 27) "If you see me climbing up trees, don't be surprised. I'm a great climber."
- 28) "While you're sleeping, you can find me out hunting for food."

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

- 29) Birds and insects are common predators of Goliath beetles in the wild.
- 30) Goliath beetles are the most amazing because they can grow up to 4 inches long.
- 31) Goliath beetles come from the African tropics, found in places like Congo and Zambia.
- 32) Goliath beetles, with their shiny exoskeleton and big jaws, are the coolest looking of all beetles.
- 33) Goliath beetles have a shiny exoskeleton that can be various colors such as black, brown, or silvery white.
- 34) Goliath beetles, with their unique patterned wings, are the most beautiful out of all the beetles.
- 35) Some humans keep Goliath beetles as pets.
- 36) Goliath beetles eat a variety of food like fruit, tree sap, and animal dung.
- 37) Their love for sweet fruits like bananas, apples, and peaches make Goliath beetles more like humans.
- 38) Goliath beetles having a diet that may include animal dung is really disgusting.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 39) Goliath beetles are a favorite snack for birds.
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- 41) Some goliath beetles are black, while others are brown or silvery.
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Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 49) What is the average weight of a goliath beetle?
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|---------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. <u> C </u> | 26. <u> false </u> | 51. <u> declarative </u> |
| 2. <u> B </u> | 27. <u> true </u> | 52. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 3. <u> A </u> | 28. <u> true </u> | 53. <u> interrogative </u> |
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| 8. <u> B </u> | 33. <u> fact </u> | |
| 9. <u> B </u> | 34. <u> opinion </u> | |
| 10. <u> D </u> | 35. <u> fact </u> | |
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| 23. <u> true </u> | 48. <u> true </u> | |
| 24. <u> true </u> | 49. <u> interrogative </u> | |
| 25. <u> true </u> | 50. <u> exclamatory </u> | |



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) How big can a Goliath beetle grow? (paragraph 1)
 - A. Up to 2 inches long
 - B. Up to 8 inches long
 - C. Up to 4 inches long
 - D. Up to 6 inches long
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 - A. In the morning
 - B. At night
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 - A. Humans avoid them, because they release foul smelling odors
 - B. Some people keep them as exotic pets
 - C. Some people use them as a source of medicine
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