



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.

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or 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."



House Crickets

Name: _____

- 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."
- 22) "I love to go out and find food during the day."
- 23) "When you see us in your homes, don't worry! We're harmless. In fact, some people keep us as their pets."
- 24) "I pose a serious threat to humans."
- 25) "You wouldn't believe the variety in our diet; from plants to fabric and even other insects."
- 26) "My color and patterns are not just for show, they help me stay hidden."
- 27) "Although I have wings, I prefer to hop around."
- 28) "I don't chirp at all."
- 29) "We are not just found in North America, we have made our way to almost all corners of the world."
- 30) "Believe it or not I have a ton of brothers and sisters. That's because my mom lays hundreds of eggs."

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

- 31) House crickets are not harmful to humans.
- 32) The sound of crickets chirping at night is relaxing.
- 33) A female house cricket can lay hundreds of these eggs.
- 34) House crickets are the cutest insects of all.
- 35) House crickets are usually light brown, have six legs and two long antennae on their heads.
- 36) Going out in the evening to see crickets is one of the best ways to end the day.
- 37) There are people who keep house crickets as pets or use them as food for their pet reptiles.
- 38) House crickets tend to live in warm environments and hide in cracks, crevices or under stones during the day.
- 39) House crickets are rather annoying because of their constant chirping.
- 40) The life cycle of house crickets, from egg to adult, is truly amazing.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 41) House crickets prefer to hop rather than fly.
- 42) In some cultures, the chirping of house crickets is considered bad luck.
- 43) House crickets are not harmful to humans.
- 44) House crickets are light blue in color.
- 45) Birds and spiders may eat house crickets.
- 46) House crickets cannot fly but they can hop 20 times their own height.
- 47) House crickets can be harmful to humans.
- 48) Female house crickets lays thousands of eggs.
- 49) Female house crickets can lay hundreds of eggs.
- 50) House crickets may eat plants, fabric or even other insects.

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



House Crickets

Name: _____

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?



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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House Crickets

Name: **Answer Key**

1.	D	26.	Would	51.	B
2.	B	27.	Would	52.	A
3.	C	28.	Not	53.	D
4.	D	29.	Would	54.	A
5.	D	30.	Would	55.	C
6.	D	31.	fact	56.	imperative
7.	A	32.	opinion	57.	interrogative
8.	B	33.	fact	58.	imperative
9.	B	34.	opinion	59.	exclamatory
10.	C	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		

