



Buzzing around your picnic, meet our tiny friend, the house fly! These little creatures are small, about 1/4 inch long, with a dark gray body and two transparent wings. You can spot them by their large red eyes which take up most of their head. And if you look really closely, you'll notice tiny hairs all over their bodies, which help them sense their surroundings.

From those big red eyes, let's fly over to where these fascinating creatures spend their time. House flies can be found all over the world, and as their name suggests, they often live in human homes. They like to hang out in trash cans, animal waste, and anywhere else they can find food. And speaking of food, did you know they eat by spitting on their food to dissolve it before sucking it back up?

After that spit-tacular meal, let's delve into the life cycle of a house fly. They start as tiny eggs, then hatch into larvae, also known as maggots. After a few days, these maggots turn into a pupa, and then finally, they emerge as adult flies. This whole process only takes about a week, so a fly's life is pretty fast-paced!



With such a speedy life cycle, you might wonder how house flies interact with the world around them. Well, they're not the best roommates for humans, as they can carry diseases. But for other animals, like frogs, spiders, and birds, house flies make a tasty snack. So, even though they can be a bit pesky, house flies are an important part of our ecosystem, providing food for many creatures and helping to break down waste.





Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) About how large is a house fly?
A. 1/4 of a foot
B. 1/4 inch long
C. 1 inch long
D. 2 inches long

- 2) How do house flies eat?
A. By chewing their food
B. By spitting on their food to dissolve it
C. By swallowing their food whole
D. House flies don't eat, only the larvae do

- 3) What do flies have covering their body?
A. stripes
B. scales
C. spots
D. hairs

- 4) What color is the body of a house fly?
A. Black
B. Grey
C. Brown
D. White

- 5) What kind of animals feed on house flies?
A. frogs, spiders, and birds
B. dogs and cats
C. elephants and lions
D. turtles and rabbits

- 6) What color are a house flies eyes?
A. blue
B. green
C. black
D. red

- 7) Where do house flies often live?
A. human homes
B. forests
C. oceans
D. mountains

- 8) How long does it take for a house fly to go through its life cycle?
A. a day
B. a month
C. a year
D. a week

- 9) What is the first stage in a house flies life?
A. Larvae
B. Pupae
C. Egg
D. Adult house fly

- 10) What is another name for house fly larvae?
A. crawls
B. flylings
C. maggots
D. pupae

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

- 11) "My body is covered in large scales."
- 12) "I swallow my food."
- 13) "My body is covered by tiny hairs which help me to feel."
- 14) "I have blue eyes."
- 15) "I skip the maggot stage in my life cycle."



House Fly

Name: _____

- 16) "I avoid trash cans and other dirty places."
- 17) "My way of eating? I spit on my food first, which dissolves it, then I slurp it up like a smoothie!"
- 18) "I make my homes near humans, often inside their houses."
- 19) "Have you seen my big red eyes? They help me observe everything."
- 20) "I'm usually found in forests far from human homes."
- 21) "I chew my food using my teeth."
- 22) "Other animals don't eat me."
- 23) "I can be found almost anywhere in the world."
- 24) "I do not start my life as an egg."
- 25) "Despite being a nuisance to humans, I am an important part of the ecosystem, providing food for many creatures."
- 26) "My life goes by in the blink of an eye. From an egg to an adult in about a week!"
- 27) "I would be a terrible pet since I can carry diseases."
- 28) "I don't carry any diseases."
- 29) "I'm really small, approximately 1/4 inch long."
- 30) "My journey starts as a tiny egg."

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

- 31) House flies have large red eyes that cover most of their head.
- 32) House flies can carry diseases which makes them dangerous for humans.
- 33) House flies are creepy because they have hairs all over their bodies.
- 34) House flies have dark grey bodies and two transparent wings.
- 35) House flies are annoying because they buzz around your food.
- 36) House flies buzzing around are annoying.
- 37) House flies look cool because they have large red eyes.
- 38) House flies are tiny creatures less than half an inch long.
- 39) House flies can go from eggs to adults in about a week.
- 40) House flies are disgusting because they start their life as maggots.
- 41) House flies are totally gross because they hang out in trash cans.
- 42) It's incredible that something as small as a house fly can carry so many diseases.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 43) House flies can usually be found near clean places.
- 44) House flies kept in captivity can grow up to 1 foot long.
- 45) House flies start as tiny eggs, then turn into larvae.
- 46) House flies have large red eyes.
- 47) Some house flies can live up to a year.
- 48) House flies spit on their food to dissolve it.
- 49) House flies have tiny hairs all over their bodies.
- 50) Frogs, spiders, and birds use house flies as a food source.
- 51) House flies have 4 sets of transparent wings.
- 52) House flies can carry diseases.
- 53) A fly's life cycle lasts 6 months.

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

54) Flies don't have teeth, so they can't chew their food.

- A. can not
- B. do not
- C. will not
- D. are not



House Fly

Name: _____

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

- 59) Look at how fast house flies can move!
- 60) Explain why it's important to keep houseflies away from our food.
- 61) What do house flies do when they find food?
- 62) Wow, house flies can walk on walls and ceilings!
- 63) It is important to keep our homes clean to avoid attracting house flies.
- 64) How long does it take for a house fly to grow from an egg to an adult?
- 65) The life cycle of a house fly only takes about two weeks.
- 66) Can house flies carry diseases?
- 67) House flies have big red eyes and transparent wings.
- 68) Be careful not to leave any uncovered food to avoid attracting house flies.
- 69) House flies eat by vomiting on their food, how gross!
- 70) Please close the windows to keep the house flies outside.



House Fly

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. _____ 69. _____

20. _____ 45. _____ 70. _____

21. _____ 46. _____

22. _____ 47. _____

23. _____ 48. _____

24. _____ 49. _____

25. _____ 50. _____



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1.	B	26.	Would	51.	false
2.	B	27.	Would	52.	true
3.	D	28.	Not	53.	false
4.	B	29.	Would	54.	B
5.	A	30.	Would	55.	A
6.	D	31.	fact	56.	D
7.	A	32.	fact	57.	A
8.	D	33.	opinion	58.	C
9.	C	34.	fact	59.	exclamatory
10.	C	35.	opinion	60.	imperative
11.	Not	36.	opinion	61.	interrogative
12.	Not	37.	opinion	62.	exclamatory
13.	Would	38.	fact	63.	declarative
14.	Not	39.	fact	64.	interrogative
15.	Not	40.	opinion	65.	declarative
16.	Not	41.	opinion	66.	interrogative
17.	Would	42.	opinion	67.	declarative
18.	Would	43.	false	68.	imperative
19.	Would	44.	false	69.	exclamatory
20.	Not	45.	true	70.	imperative
21.	Not	46.	true		
22.	Not	47.	false		
23.	Would	48.	true		
24.	Not	49.	true		
25.	Would	50.	true		

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

- 1) About how large is a house fly? (paragraph 1)
A. 1/4 of a foot B. 1/4 inch long
C. D.
- 2) How do house flies eat? (paragraph 2)
A. B. By spitting on their food to dissolve it
C. D.
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C. Egg D.
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