



Dive headfirst into the fascinating world of tiny creatures known as termites! These miniature marvels, often mistaken for ants, are usually white or light brown in color and have soft bodies. These little guys are not loners, they live in large groups called colonies, and boy do they like to keep busy! Each termite has a role to play, from the king and queen who lead the colony, to the workers and soldiers who keep things running smoothly.

Speaking of busy, these industrious insects are nature's recyclers, munching away on dead plant material and wood. That's right, their favorite food is cellulose, the main component found in plant and wood material. This wood-munching habit is why you often find them in dead trees, logs, or even in the wooden structures of houses. But don't worry, they don't just destroy, they also help to break down and recycle materials back into the soil.

From munching wood to building colonies, let's swap gears and explore their life cycle. The life of a termite begins as an egg, which hatches into a nymph. These nymphs then grow and change, taking on roles as workers, soldiers, or reproductives (future kings and queens). Once mature, the new kings and queens fly off to start colonies of their own, continuing the cycle of life for these little critters.



Having taken a peek at their life cycle, let's touch on their relationship with us and other animals. While termites can be a nuisance to homeowners, they play a crucial role in the ecosystem by helping to break down dead plant material. They also serve as a food source for many creatures, like ants, birds, and even some mammals! So, while they might be tiny, termites have a huge impact on the world around us.





Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What color are termites usually?
A. Black or dark brown B. White or light brown
C. Green or blue D. Red or pink
- 2) What are the large groups where termites live called?
A. kingdoms B. hives
C. towns D. colonies
- 3) What do termites like to eat?
A. Blood B. Plants
C. Fabric D. Cellulose
- 4) What other insect are termites sometimes mistaken for?
A. thrips B. beetles
C. grasshoppers D. ants
- 5) Who consumes termites?
A. People, lions, and whales B. Butterflies, beetles, and bees
C. Flowers, trees, and grasses D. Ants, birds, and some mammals
- 6) Which are roles in a termite colony?
A. Boss, laborers, and security B. King, queen, workers, and soldiers
C. Chef, builder, and guard D. Leader, helpers, and protectors
- 7) Where would you be most likely to find termites?
A. Flower gardens B. Body of water
C. Dead trees D. Grassy fields
- 8) How does the life of a termite begin?
A. As a pupa B. As a larva
C. As a caterpillar D. As an egg
- 9) What do termites do with the waste they produce?
A. They use it to build their nests B. They use it as food
C. They store it for future use D. They recycle it back into the soil
- 10) What role do termites play in the ecosystem?
A. Helping to clean and purify water B. Breaking down dead plant material
C. Distributing seeds in their waste D. Pollinating flowers

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

- 11) "We start our lives as eggs, then we hatch into tiny creatures called nymphs."
- 12) "Many creatures like ants, birds, and even some mammals consider us a food source."
- 13) "There's royalty among us termites. We even have a king and queen who lead the termite colony."
- 14) "We don't hatch from eggs."



- 15) "Ever wondered why you find us often in dead trees or logs? It's because we love the taste of wood!"
- 16) "I'm a loner, I prefer living alone rather than in a colony."
- 17) "Houses are just not in our diet."
- 18) "We termites live together in a large group called a colony."
- 19) "After our eggs hatch, we grow into our roles like worker or soldier."
- 20) "You might find us in the wooden parts of your house, just looking for a bite to eat."
- 21) "We termites do not have a king or queen."
- 22) "People sometimes mistake us for ants."
- 23) "Dead trees and logs are not really our thing."
- 24) "We're kind of like the recycling team of the insect world. We break down dead plants and wood."
- 25) "We termites don't like to eat wood."
- 26) "Birds and mammals don't like to eat us, we're too bitter."
- 27) "Cellulose is our favorite food. You could say we're a bit of experts in turning wood into dinner!"

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

- 28) Termites eat dead plant material and wood.
- 29) Termites are much more fascinating than ants because of their different life stages.
- 30) The termite colony is led by a king and queen.
- 31) It's intriguing how termites live in organized colonies with different roles for each termite.
- 32) Termites are tiny creatures that are usually white or light brown and have soft bodies.
- 33) Termites eating their way through a wooden structure is a gross thought.
- 34) Termites serve as a major food source for many animals including ants, birds, and some mammals.
- 35) Termites live in large groups known as colonies.
- 36) Termites are highly underrated for their contribution to the soil.
- 37) Termites are not scary at all because of their small size and soft bodies.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 38) Termites are usually white or light brown in color.
- 39) Baby termites are called queens and kings.
- 40) The life of a termite starts as an egg.
- 41) Termites prefer to live alone.
- 42) Termites help break down dead plant material.
- 43) In a termite colony, all termites have the same role.
- 44) Termites spend their lives in the same colony where they were born.
- 45) Birds and mammals avoid eating termites because they taste like wood.
- 46) Termites live in large groups called colonies.
- 47) Cellulose is a termite's favorite food.

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

- 48) The fact that termites use their feces to build their nests is both gross and fascinating!



Termites

Name: _____

- 49) Call a professional exterminator if you suspect a termite infestation.
- 50) Why can termites be a problem for humans?
- 51) Termites consume wood 24/7 until nothing is left, it's an astonishing dedication!
- 52) Termites live in groups called colonies.
- 53) Do termites live in colonies?
- 54) Termites can cause damage to our homes by eating wood.
- 55) How do termites help recycle nutrients in the soil?
- 56) Some termites build mounds above ground, while others live underground.
- 57) Protect your home from termites by keeping firewood away from the foundation.
- 58) Oh no, termites are eating our house!
- 59) Please be careful and do not disturb a termite colony.



Termites

Name: _____

1. _____ 26. _____ 51. _____

2. _____ 27. _____ 52. _____

3. _____ 28. _____ 53. _____

4. _____ 29. _____ 54. _____

5. _____ 30. _____ 55. _____

6. _____ 31. _____ 56. _____

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25. _____ 50. _____



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



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B. C.
D.
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C.
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