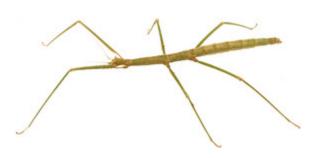
Imagine a creature that looks like a twig, but surprise, it's an insect! This fascinating creature, known as a walking stick, is so good at camouflage, it can easily trick you into thinking it's just a twig hanging from a tree. They have long, slender bodies and legs, with colors ranging from green to brown, perfectly blending with their surroundings. These curious critters are one of the most unique members of the insect world, and they're just waiting to amaze you with their cool tricks!



Speaking of tricks, let's explore some of their survival strategies. Walking sticks are herbivores, which means they munch on leaves, especially the yummy ones from oak and hazelnut trees. When a predator approaches, they play dead or drop from the trees to escape, and if that doesn't work, some can even squirt a smelly spray to scare the predator away! It's a bug-eat-bug world out there, and these guys are fully equipped for it.

From being a master of disguise to having a unique diet, walking sticks sure are interesting, but let's take a peek into their life cycle. The female lays her eggs by dropping them to the ground where they hide among the leaf litter until they hatch. Once they hatch, the baby walking sticks, called nymphs, will grow into adults, shedding their skin as they get bigger. The whole process is a fascinating cycle of growth and transformation.



Now that we know all about their lives, let's see how these little critters interact with us humans and other animals. While they do not have a direct impact on humans, their primary defense mechanism can be irritating if the liquid gets in our eyes. As for other animals, birds, reptiles, and small mammals might see them as a tasty snack, although their camouflage and defenses often keep them safe. These twig-like insects are not just unique in appearance, but they also hold a special place in the web of life, teaching us about the wonders of adaptation and survival.

Walking Sticks

Solve each problem. Use the article to answer the question. 1) What do walking sticks eat? A. Human blood and skin flakes. B. Leaves from oak and hazelnut trees. C. Honey and flower nectar. D. Small insects and bugs. 2) What color can walking sticks be? A. Black and white B. Yellow and purple C. Green to brown D. Red and blue 3) What are baby walking sticks called? A. Pupae. B. Infants. C. Larvae. D. Nymphs. 4) Are walking stick insects harmful to humans? A. Only if their defense liquid gets in our B. Yes, they are extremely poisonous eves C. Yes, their bite can cause serious D. No, they are completely harmless injury 5) How do female walking sticks lay their eggs? A. By laying them in a nest in the trees B. By burying them deep in the soil C. By hiding them in a leafy cocoon D. By dropping them to the ground 6) How can walking sticks escape from predators? A. They play dead. B. They change their color. C. They fly away. D. They run very fast. 7) What kind of creatures could see walking sticks as a tasty snack? A. Large mammals and birds. B. Elephants and giraffes. C. Birds and reptiles. D. Monkeys and big cats. 8) Where do walking sticks live? A. In trees B. In the desert C. In the ocean D. Underground in burrows 9) What can walking sticks do to scare predators away? A. Puff up their body to 4 times its size B. Flash their bright underbelly D. Make a loud screeching noise C. Squirt a smelly spray 10) What type of diet do walking stick insects have? A. Carnivores, hunting for smaller B. Seed-eaters, munching on a variety of insects seeds C. Herbivores, eating leaves from oak D. Fruit-eaters, feeding on berries and and hazelnut trees other fruits

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

	Walking Sticks	Name:
11)	"If I see a predator I might squirt out a smelly spray to scare them a	way!"
12)	"My body is super skinny, in fact, I look like a stick!"	
13)	"I can match my color with greens to browns to stay hidden from th	reats."
14)	"I have a carnivorous diet, I love eating insects."	
15)	"My defense spray can be irritating if it gets in your eyes."	
16)	"The way I lay eggs is by carefully placing them one by one."	
17)	"I don't have any defenses against predators."	
18)	"When a danger comes near, sometimes I will play dead or drop do	wn from trees to hide."
19)	"Did you know my body is super skinny? My shape helps me easily leaves."	v hide among twigs and
20)	"Birds, reptiles, and small mammals might try to eat me, but my car help me stay safe."	nouflage and defenses
21)	"I attract a lot of attention from predators due to my vibrant colors."	,
22)	"As I grow and get larger, I will shed my skin."	
23)	"My spray does not affect humans."	
24)	"My mom drops my egg on the ground, where it stays hidden amon	g the leaves."
25)	"I lay my eggs in nests on trees."	
26)	"The only way I can defend myself is by playing dead."	
27)	"I love to eat leaves. My favorite leaf comes from the oak tree."	
Dete	termine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the informat	ion in the article.
28)	When a female walking stick lays her eggs, she drops them to the g	round.
29)	Seeing a walking stick in the wild is an exciting moment because of camouflage.	f their excellent
30)	Walking sticks can use a smelly spray to scare predators away.	
31)	Walking sticks are the most gross insects because they squirt out a sthreatened.	smelly liquid when
32)	Walking sticks are insects that have a body and legs that are long an	nd thin.
33)	Walking sticks are not interesting because they are just bugs.	
34)	Baby walking sticks, known as nymphs, shed their skin as they grow	w bigger.
35)	Walking sticks eat leaves, especially from oak and hazelnut trees.	
36)	The way walking sticks mimic twigs to hide from predators is amaz	ing

- **36)** The way walking sticks mimic twigs to hide from predators is amazing.
- 37) The ability of walking sticks to squirt a smelly spray when threatened is a cool defense mechanism.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **38)** Reptiles see walking sticks as a tasty snack.
- **39)** Walking sticks are all brown to blend in with tree twigs.
- 40) Walking sticks prefer munching on leaves from oak and hazelnut trees.
- **41**) Walking sticks are carnivores.

		Walking Sticks	Name:	
42)	Baby walking sticks are			
43)	Female walking sticks l	ay their eggs on tree leaves.		
4 4)	Baby walking sticks spi	n a cocoon after only a year of life.		
45)	Walking sticks do not h	ave any defenses.		
46)	Walking sticks may dro	p from trees to escape from predators.		
47)	č	melly spray to scare predators away.		
Dete	ermine which choice is t	he expanded form of the underlined c	ontraction.	
48)	Walking sticks don't cau	-		
	A. does not	B. do not		
	C. did not	D. will not		
49)	They've been found livin	ng in forests and grasslands.		
,	A. They have	B. They were		
	C. They had	D. They will		
50)	Walking sticks can't cha	nge their size, but they can change colo	rs.	
	A. can	B. will		
	C. won't	D. cannot		
51)	It's amazing how walkin	g sticks can grow their legs back if they	lose them.	
	A. It is	B. It was		
	C. It am	D. It has		
52)	They're found in warm of	climates like tropical and subtropical reg	ions.	
	A. They am	B. They is		
	C. They are	D. They were		

imperative(m).

- 53) Their life cycle includes eggs, nymphs, and adults.
- 54) Some walking sticks live in trees their whole lives, that's amazing!
- 55) Some walking sticks have wings, while others do not.

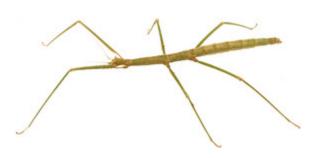
56) Can walking sticks fly?

- 57) Do walking sticks eat leaves?
- 58) Walking sticks can play dead to fool predators, what an amazing trick!
- **59**) Some walking sticks can squirt a smelly liquid to deter predators.
- **60**) Can walking sticks change colors?
- 61) It's astonishing that a walking stick can grow as long as two feet!

Reading

		Walk	ing Sticks	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			
13.		38			
14.		39.			
15.		40.			
16.		41			
17.		42.			
18.		43.			
19.		44			
20.		45.			
21.		46			
22.		47			
23.		48			
24.		49			
25.		50			
	Reading	www.CommonCoreShe	Page 5 of 5		

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Name: **Answer Key**

Sol	lve	each	pro	bl	lem.	
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21)	"I attract a lot of attention from predators due to my vibrant colors."						
22)	"As I grow and get larger, I will shed my skin."						
23)	"My spray does not affect humans."						
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Det	ermine which choice is the expanded forn	n of the underlined contraction	1.		
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	A. does not	B. do not			
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	A. It is	B. It was			
	C. It am	D. It has			
52)	They're found in warm climates like tropic	al and subtropical regions.			
	A. They am	B. They is			
	C. They are	D. They were			
D ((•)		
Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or					

imperative(m).

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			Walking Stic	ks		Name:	Answer Key
1.	В	26.	false	51.	Α		
2.	C	27	true	52.	С		
3.	D	28.	fact	53.	declarative	_	
4.	A	29.	opinion	54.	exclamatory	_	
5.	D	30	fact	55.	declarative		
6.	A	31.	opinion	56.	interrogative		
7.	C	32	fact	57.	interrogative		
8.	A	33.	opinion	58.	exclamatory		
9.	C	34	fact	59.	declarative		
10.	C	35.	fact	60.	interrogative		
11.	true	36.	opinion	61.	exclamatory	_	
12.	true	37	opinion				
13.	true	38.	true				
14.	false	39	false				
15.	true	40	true				
16.	false	41	false				
17.	false	42.	true				
18.	true	43.	false				
19.	true	44	false				
20.	true	45.	false				
21.	false	46.	true				
22.	true	47	true				
23.	false	48.	В				
24.	true	49	Α				
25.	false	50.	D				
		www.Commor	nCoreSheets.com	Page 4	4 of 4		

		5010	ng rume.
Solv	e each problem.		
	the article to answer the question. What do walking sticks eat? (paragraph 2) A. Human blood and skin flakes. C.		Leaves from oak and hazelnut trees.
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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) "If I see a predator I might squirt out a smelly spray to scare them away!" (paragraph 2)
- 12) "My body is super skinny, in fact, I look like a stick!" (paragraph 1)