



Dive into the world of one of nature's many-legged wonders, the centipede! These wiggly creatures, with their long bodies, are covered in segments, each having a pair of legs. They come in many colors, from brown to bright red, and can vary in size from a few inches to well over a foot! Their many legs move in waves, making them incredibly quick and agile.



Now, you might wonder where these speedy critters make their homes. Centipedes are found all over the world, from rainforests to deserts, and they love to hide in dark, damp places like under rocks or inside logs. They're night owls, or nocturnal, which means they're most active when the sun goes down. When the day comes, they retreat into their cozy hideouts, away from the prying eyes of predators.

From their hideouts, these creatures venture out in search of a tasty meal. These little carnivores love to munch on insects, spiders, and even other smaller centipedes! They use their venomous front claws, called forcipules, to catch and paralyze their dinner. But don't worry, despite their fierce hunting skills, they're not harmful to us humans.



Speaking of us humans, let's look at how these many-legged creatures fit into our world. Centipedes play an essential role in nature by controlling other insect populations. While some people might get a little creeped out by them, they are generally harmless and prefer to run away than fight. So next time you see a centipede scurrying by, remember, it's just another fascinating part of our amazing natural world.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What does each segment of a centipede's body have?
 - A. A stinger
 - B. A black dot
 - C. A separate heart
 - D. A pair of legs

- 2) Where do centipedes usually hide during the day?
 - A. In trees
 - B. In the open
 - C. In their hideouts
 - D. Under the sun

- 3) Where can centipedes be found?
 - A. All over the world, from rainforests to deserts.
 - B. Only in dry, sunny places.
 - C. Only in the Arctic and Antarctic regions.
 - D. Only in the desert areas.

- 4) What type of diet do centipedes have?
 - A. Herbivores
 - B. Insectivores
 - C. Carnivores
 - D. Omnivores

- 5) What role do centipedes play in nature?
 - A. They spread seeds from plants to different areas.
 - B. They help decompose wood and leaves.
 - C. They pollinate flowers and plants.
 - D. They control other insect populations.

- 6) How big can centipedes get?
 - A. From a few inches to over a foot.
 - B. They cannot grow larger than an inch.
 - C. About 3 inches
 - D. They can grow up to 10 feet long.

- 7) Where do centipedes like to hide?
 - A. Underwater in rivers and lakes.
 - B. In high and dry places like tree tops.
 - C. Dark, damp places like under rocks or inside logs.
 - D. In bright, open areas like fields and meadows.

- 8) When are centipedes most active?
 - A. When the sun goes down.
 - B. In the middle of the day.
 - C. When it's raining or snowing outside.
 - D. Only during the winter months.

- 9) What are the front claws of a centipede called?
 - A. Forcipules
 - B. Pinchers
 - C. Antenna
 - D. Snout

- 10) What do centipedes eat?
 - A. Milk, cheese, and other dairy products.
 - B. Insects, spiders, and even other smaller centipedes.
 - C. Only fruit and vegetables.
 - D. Leaves, bark, and other plant materials.



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

- 11) "I don't use my front claws when hunting."
- 12) "I prefer to live in freezing regions."
- 13) "You won't see me during the day, I like to stay hidden."
- 14) "My skin color varies, from plain brown to bright red."
- 15) "I don't have many legs."
- 16) "You might find me under a rock or inside a log."
- 17) "With my many legs, I move really fast!"
- 18) "I'm the smallest creature in the world."
- 19) "I have a single pair of legs."
- 20) "My diet includes only plants."
- 21) "I prefer to hunt during the day."
- 22) "I love the night. That's when I'm most active."
- 23) "Did you know that I can be as small as a few inches or longer than a ruler?"
- 24) "You might find me anywhere in the world, I live in places as wet as rainforests and as dry as deserts."
- 25) "I might look scary, but I'm not a fighter. Given a chance, I'd rather run away than face a threat."
- 26) "My favorite time to play is during the day."
- 27) "You might not know this, but my front claws are venomous."
- 28) "Look at my long body, each segment of it has a pair of legs."

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

- 29) It is incredible that centipedes can grow to be more than a foot long.
- 30) Centipedes look really cool with their many legs.
- 31) It's interesting that centipedes are harmless to humans.
- 32) Centipedes are scary because they have venomous front claws and can catch their prey with them.
- 33) Centipedes look much cooler than millipedes.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 34) Centipedes have a pair of legs for each of their body segments.
- 35) Centipedes numerous legs make them move very slow.
- 36) Centipedes can be longer than a foot.
- 37) All centipedes are bright red.
- 38) Centipedes use their venomous front claws to catch their dinner.
- 39) Centipedes are mostly active during the day.
- 40) Centipedes wrap their bodies around their prey to paralyze them.



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| 1. | <u> D </u> | 26. | <u> false </u> | 51. | <u> declarative </u> |
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| 7. | <u> C </u> | 32. | <u> opinion </u> | 57. | <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 8. | <u> A </u> | 33. | <u> opinion </u> | | |
| 9. | <u> A </u> | 34. | <u> true </u> | | |
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| 13. | <u> true </u> | 38. | <u> true </u> | | |
| 14. | <u> true </u> | 39. | <u> false </u> | | |
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| 21. | <u> false </u> | 46. | <u> D </u> | | |
| 22. | <u> true </u> | 47. | <u> A </u> | | |
| 23. | <u> true </u> | 48. | <u> C </u> | | |
| 24. | <u> true </u> | 49. | <u> declarative </u> | | |
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