



Buzzing into our story today are the fascinating creatures called wasps! These tiny critters have slim bodies, narrow waists, and are usually black or have bright warning colors. Their bodies can be shiny or dull, and they have wings which they use to dart through the air. And don't forget their stingers, those sharp little weapons they have at the end of their bodies.

Speaking of their stingers, did you know they use them not just to protect themselves, but also to hunt? Wasps are carnivorous, which means they love to eat other insects and caterpillars. Sometimes, they even feed on nectar and fruit. When they're not hunting, wasps can be found in a variety of habitats, from forests to deserts, and even in human homes!

While we might not like finding them in our homes, wasps actually play a very important role in nature. They help control the population of other insects by hunting them for food. They are also pollinators, which means they help plants to produce fruit and seeds. But, of course, it's always important to be careful around them because their stings can really hurt!

Despite their stings, wasps are not just about defending themselves, they have a fascinating life too! A wasp's life begins as an egg, and after they hatch, they spend time as larvae before maturing into adults. Some wasps even have the ability to 'freeze' their development and wait for better weather before they grow up. So, while they might seem scary, remember that wasps are an essential part of our world and have their own interesting stories to tell.



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

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- 8) What ability do some wasps have?
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 - A. They control the population of insects.
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 - C. They spread seeds through their droppings.
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- 10) What body part do wasps use to protect themselves and to hunt?
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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) "My stinger does more than protect me, I use it hunt too."



- 12) "I'm pretty tiny, my body is slim and I've a narrow waist."
- 13) "I'm a carnivore which means I feed on other insects and caterpillars. But, sometimes when I'm in the mood, I do enjoy some sweet nectar and fruit."
- 14) "I live only in forests, I can't survive anywhere else."
- 15) "Who said we were pest? We actually help control the number of other insects by hunting them."
- 16) "My life starts as a caterpillar not as an egg."
- 17) "I don't like nectar or fruits, they're too sweet for me."
- 18) "Our homes are everywhere from cities to forests."
- 19) "I'm usually black, but sometimes I can have these bright warning colors."
- 20) "We help plants make fruit and seeds! Yep, we're not just hunters, we're pollinators, too."
- 21) "I can't fly, my wings are just for show."
- 22) "I have this special ability, you know. Sometimes I can just 'freeze' and wait around for the weather to get better before I grow up."
- 23) "I am a vegetarian, I only eat leaves and grass."
- 24) "Life for me is quite fascinating. I start as an egg, then become a larva before turning into an adult."
- 25) "I don't have a stinger, I prefer to solve conflicts peacefully."
- 26) "Pollination is not my thing, I leave it to the bees."
- 27) "Yes, my stings do hurt. But remember, I only use it to protect myself. So, it's best to keep a safe distance!"

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

- 28) Wasps can live in a variety of environments, including forests and deserts.
- 29) Even though they look similar at a glance, wasps are much scarier than bees.
- 30) A wasp diet is carnivorous, and they often consume other insects.
- 31) Wasps are the coolest insects because they can fly and sting at the same time.
- 32) Wasps have slim bodies and are often black or showcase bright warning colors.
- 33) Wasps, with their bright warning colors, are the coolest looking insects.
- 34) Some kind of wasps can pause their development and wait for better weather before maturing fully.
- 35) Wasps use their stingers to hunt their prey and to protect themselves from threats.
- 36) Wasps are very intimidating because of their sharp stingers.
- 37) It's fascinating how wasps use their stingers not just for protection, but also for hunting.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 38) Many wasps have bright coloring.
- 39) Wasps are usually blue.
- 40) Wasps begin life as an egg.
- 41) Wasps use their stingers only to protect themselves.



Common Wasps

Name: _____

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 28. _____ | 53. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 29. _____ | 54. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 30. _____ | 55. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 31. _____ | 56. _____ |
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| 18. _____ | 43. _____ | |
| 19. _____ | 44. _____ | |
| 20. _____ | 45. _____ | |
| 21. _____ | 46. _____ | |
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Determine if the statement is true or false.

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- 42) Wasps love to eat caterpillars.
- 43) Wasps are vegetarian.
- 44) Wasps can only be found in forests.
- 45) Wasps shed their skin multiple times before becoming an adult.
- 46) Some wasps feed on nectar or fruit.
- 47) Some wasps can 'freeze' their development and wait for better weather before they grow up.

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

- 48) Wasps can't pollinate flowers as well as bees, but they still help.
 - A. can
 - B. cannot
 - C. will not
 - D. could not
- 49) They're important for our ecosystem, even if they might seem scary.
 - A. They are
 - B. They have
 - C. They were
 - D. They do
- 50) Wasps aren't the same as bees, even though they look similar.
 - A. is not
 - B. am not
 - C. were not
 - D. are not
- 51) If you've seen a wasp nest, you know they can be quite large.
 - A. you have
 - B. you are
 - C. you do
 - D. you were
- 52) Wasps don't just sting people; they also help with pest control.
 - A. cannot
 - B. does not
 - C. do not
 - D. did not

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

- 53) Wasps can sting multiple times.
- 54) The fact that a group of wasps is called a "plague," is really creepy!
- 55) Wasps are usually black or yellow in color.
- 56) What do wasps eat?
- 57) Do wasps make honey?
- 58) Female wasps have stingers and males don't, that seems unfair!
- 59) Wasps feed on nectar, fruits, and insects.
- 60) Do wasps sting?
- 61) Wasps can remember faces, that's incredibly smart for such a tiny creature!



- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u> C </u> | 26. <u> false </u> | 51. <u> A </u> |
| 2. <u> D </u> | 27. <u> true </u> | 52. <u> C </u> |
| 3. <u> A </u> | 28. <u> fact </u> | 53. <u> declarative </u> |
| 4. <u> A </u> | 29. <u> opinion </u> | 54. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 5. <u> B </u> | 30. <u> fact </u> | 55. <u> declarative </u> |
| 6. <u> A </u> | 31. <u> opinion </u> | 56. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 7. <u> B </u> | 32. <u> fact </u> | 57. <u> interrogative </u> |
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