



Ever wondered about the largest insects on Earth? Meet the Goliath beetles, a true giant in the bug world! These amazing creatures can grow up to 4 inches long, almost the size of a standard business card. They're known for their shiny, armor-like exoskeleton that can be black, brown, or silvery white. They also have unique, patterned wings that they can hide under a hard outer shell when they're not flying. Isn't that incredible? Plus, they've got these big, strong jaws that they use for munching on their favorite foods.



Speaking of munching, let's dive into the diet of these fascinating giants. Like most kids, these beetles are big fans of fruit, especially sweet ones like bananas, apples, and peaches. But they're not picky eaters; they also enjoy tree sap and even animal dung. Yuck! When they're larvae, or baby beetles, they eat a lot of protein-rich foods to grow big and strong.

Now that we know what they eat, let's explore where these critters call home. The Goliath beetles are African natives, living in the warm, tropical forests of countries like Congo, Zambia, and Gabon. They spend their days hiding in the soil or in tree trunks, and at night, they come out to search for food. These beetles, believe it or not, are pretty good climbers, using their strong legs to climb trees and find yummy treats.



Alright, we've learned a lot about Goliath beetles, but let's check out how they interact with other animals and us humans. In the wild, these beetles have to watch out for birds and other insects who might see them as a tasty snack. As for us humans, we mostly leave them alone, but some people do keep them as exotic pets. So, next time you see a Goliath beetle, remember they're not just big bugs, but fascinating creatures with a unique way of life. Isn't nature amazing?



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) How big can a Goliath beetle grow?
A. Up to 2 inches long B. Up to 8 inches long
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A. In the late afternoon B. In the early morning
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- 3) What other food do Goliath beetles enjoy apart from fruits?
A. Insects and small animals B. Tree sap and animal dung
C. Seeds and nuts D. Fish and seafood
- 4) Where are Goliath beetles from?
A. South American rainforests B. African tropical forests
C. European grasslands D. Asian bamboo forests
- 5) What is the Goliath beetle's favorite food?
A. Grass B. Fruit
C. Insects D. Leaves
- 6) What colors can a Goliath beetle's exoskeleton be?
A. Red, blue, or green B. Purple, yellow, or pink
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- 7) What do baby Goliath beetles, or larvae, eat to grow big and strong?
A. Sugary, sweet foods B. Leafy, green foods
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- 8) Where do Goliath beetles hide during the day?
A. In bird nests or in beehives B. They do not hide during the day
C. In the soil or in tree trunks D. In the water or under rocks
- 9) How do humans interact with Goliath beetles?
A. Some people keep them as exotic pets B. Humans avoid them, because they release foul smelling odors
C. Humans actively try to kill them since they are pests D. Humans place them in their gardens because they scare away birds
- 10) What animals are likely to eat Goliath beetles in the wild?
A. Lions and elephants B. Fish and reptiles
C. Birds and other insects D. Bears and wolves

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

- 11) "I only live in desert areas."
- 12) "Climbing trees is impossible for me."
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Goliath Beetle

Name: _____

- 15) "My exoskeleton is soft and squishy."
- 16) "You might find it weird, but I also enjoy eating tree sap and even animal dung!"
- 17) "If you are looking for me, head to the warm tropical forests of countries like Congo, Zambia, and Gabon."
- 18) "I dislike sweet fruits like bananas and peaches."
- 19) "I can't fly, my wings are just for decoration."
- 20) "Birds are my best friends in the wild."
- 21) "I fly around during the day."
- 22) "I prefer to spend my days hiding in the soil."
- 23) "Can you imagine munching on your favorite fruit all day? That's how I live, enjoying sweet treats like bananas and apples!"
- 24) "You might think we beetles are small, but I can grow up to be the size of a business card!"
- 25) "I've gotta watch out for birds and other bugs, they might want to have me as their snack."
- 26) "I'm a vegetarian and only eat leaves."
- 27) "If you see me climbing up trees, don't be surprised. I'm a great climber."
- 28) "While you're sleeping, you can find me out hunting for food."

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

- 29) Birds and insects are common predators of Goliath beetles in the wild.
- 30) Goliath beetles are the most amazing because they can grow up to 4 inches long.
- 31) Goliath beetles come from the African tropics, found in places like Congo and Zambia.
- 32) Goliath beetles, with their shiny exoskeleton and big jaws, are the coolest looking of all beetles.
- 33) Goliath beetles have a shiny exoskeleton that can be various colors such as black, brown, or silvery white.
- 34) Goliath beetles, with their unique patterned wings, are the most beautiful out of all the beetles.
- 35) Some humans keep Goliath beetles as pets.
- 36) Goliath beetles eat a variety of food like fruit, tree sap, and animal dung.
- 37) Their love for sweet fruits like bananas, apples, and peaches make Goliath beetles more like humans.
- 38) Goliath beetles having a diet that may include animal dung is really disgusting.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 39) Goliath beetles are a favorite snack for birds.
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- 41) Some goliath beetles are black, while others are brown or silvery.
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- 46) Birds avoid goliath beetles because of their size.
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Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 49) What is the average weight of a goliath beetle?
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- 53) Where do goliath beetles live?
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- 56) Male Goliath beetles have large horns on their heads.



Goliath Beetle

Name: _____

1. _____ 26. _____ 51. _____

2. _____ 27. _____ 52. _____

3. _____ 28. _____ 53. _____

4. _____ 29. _____ 54. _____

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

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