

What are mosquitoes?



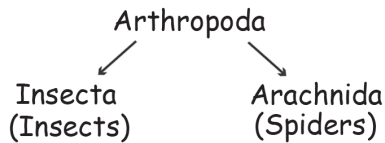
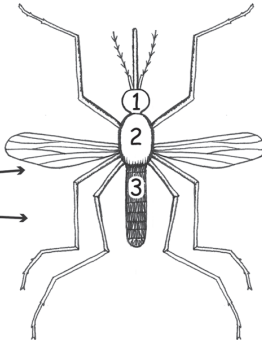
TEACHER'S COPY

Mosquitoes are **insects**.

What are **insects**?

Adult insects are **animals** that...

- Have a body with 3 sections
- Most kinds have wings
- All have 6 legs



The American Heritage Science Dictionary defines insects as - "Any of very numerous, mostly small arthropods of the class Insecta, having six segmented legs in the adult stage and a body divided into three parts (the head, thorax, and abdomen). The head has a pair of antennae and the thorax usually has one or two pairs of wings. Most insects undergo substantial change in form during development from the young to the adult stage. More than 800,000 species are known, most are known, most of them beetles. Other insects include flies, bees, ants, grasshoppers, butterflies, cockroaches, aphids, and silverfish."

There are lots of different kinds of insects. Write down 3 insects that you have seen before.

There are insects that do not have wings for some or all of their lives (ants, earwigs etc.)

Being that there are thousands of kinds of insects, there are many correct answers to this question. Some possible answers include (but are not limited to) flies, dragonflies, bees, wasps, mosquitoes, grasshoppers, praying mantis, ants, bugs, moths, beetles, cockroaches, etc.

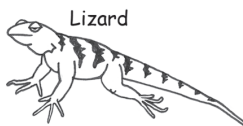
Circle the animals that are insects.



Frog



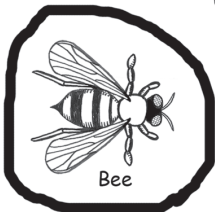
Butterfly



Lizard



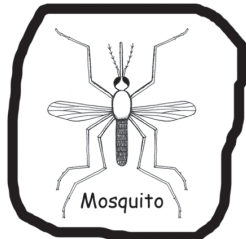
Bat



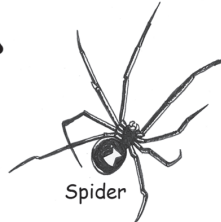
Bee



Worm



Mosquito



Spider

Grade 2 Investigation

"Compare and sort common objects according to two or more physical attributes..."

The butterfly, bee and mosquito are insects because they all have 3 main body segments and six legs.

Frogs, lizards, bats, worms, and spiders do not have 6 legs and 3 body segments and therefore are not insects.

Spiders are related to insects (both insects and spiders are Arthropods), but spiders are in the class Arachnida. Scorpions, ticks, and mites are also classified as arachnids and are not insects.

Grade 1 Investigation

"Draw pictures that portray some features of the thing being described."

Draw an adult insect on the back of this page. Make sure that it has 6 legs and a body with 3 sections!