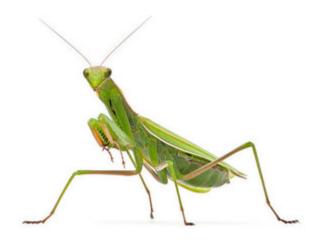
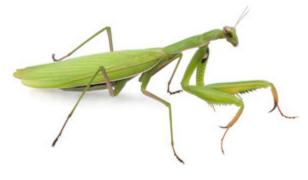


Imagine a creature that looks like it comes from an alien world, with a triangular head that turns 180 degrees and two big, bulging eyes. Well, there's no need to imagine, because such a creature exists right here on Earth - it's called a praying mantis! These fascinating insects are named so because of their prayer-like stance, with their two front legs folded as if praying. A praying mantis can be green or brown and can range in size from 0.5 to 6 inches, and it's a master of disguise, blending perfectly with its surroundings.



Speaking of surroundings, praying mantises can be found all over the world, living in a variety of environments. From warm, tropical rainforests to cool, temperate regions, these adaptable critters make their homes in trees, shrubs, and even in grassy meadows. They're most commonly seen in the spring and summer months, and if you're lucky enough, you might spot one in your own backyard! And do you know what's even cooler? Female mantises lay up to 200 eggs, which they encase in a protective foam that hardens into an egg case.

Now, let's talk about what happens when those eggs hatch. The baby mantises, called nymphs, look like miniature versions of their parents. As they grow, they shed their skin, a process called molting, until they become full-grown mantises. These insects are carnivores and eat a variety of insects, including flies and moths, and sometimes they even eat each other!



Lastly, let's not forget to mention the interesting relationship mantises have with other animals and humans. For some animals, mantises are a source of food, but for others, these stealthy hunters are a threat. Humans, on the other hand, appreciate mantises because they help control pest populations. So, next time you see a praying mantis, remember that it's not only an incredible insect, but also an important part of our ecosystem.



#### Solve each problem.

# Use the article to answer the question.

1) What is the process called when baby mantises shed their skin?

A. MantisingC. Skinning

B. MoltingD. Shedding

2) Where would you most likely not find praying mantises making their homes?

A. Shrubs B. Beaches

C. Meadows D. Trees

3) What are baby mantises called?

A. pupae B. larvae

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A. It is able to detach its head.

B. It can survive even without its head.

C. It can turn its head 180 degrees.

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7) Which best describes the diet of mantises?

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8) What time of year are praying mantises most commonly seen?

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9) What is the purpose of the foam that covers the eggs?

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**10**) Why do humans appreciate mantises?

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11) Why are praying mantises named so?

A. because they are great hunters

B. because they can turn their heads 180

degrees

C. because of their prayer-like stance D. because they have triangular heads



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

- 12) "I'm vegetarian, I don't eat insects."
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- 28) "When it's time to lay eggs, I can lay up to 200 at a time! I protect them in a special hard case."
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## Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 32) When hatched, praying mantis nymphs look just like their parents but in a smaller form.
- 33) Seeing a praying mantis in your backyard could be the most exciting part of your day.
- **34)** Female praying mantises can lay almost 200 eggs.
- 35) The way a praying mantis blends with its environment is absolutely amazing.
- **36**) The praying mantis is an insect that has large, bulging eyes and a triangular head which can rotate 180 degrees.
- 37) It's astonishing that a female mantis can lay up to 200 eggs!
- **38)** Praying mantises are carnivores eating a variety of insects, even including their own species.
- 39) Praying mantises can be found in many different environments all around the globe.
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41) Praying mantises are quite scary because of their ability to turn their heads 180 degrees.

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- **42)** Mantises are a threat to some animals.
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	Praying Mantis	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.	62.
13.	38.	63
14.	39.	
15.	40.	
16.	41.	
17.	42.	
18.	43.	
19.	44.	
20.	45.	
21.	46.	
22.	47.	
23.	48.	
24.	49.	
25.	50.	
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**Praying Mantis** 

**Answer Key** 

1.	В	26.	true
2.	В	27.	true
3.	C	28.	true
4.	<u> </u>	29.	false
5.	A	30.	true
6.	D	31.	true
7.	<u>A</u>	32.	fact
8.	C	33.	opinion
9.	<u>A</u>	34.	fact
10.	A	35.	opinion
11.	<u> </u>	36.	fact
12.	false	37.	opinion
13.	false	38.	fact
14.	true	39.	fact
15.	false	40.	opinion
16.	false	41.	opinion
17.	false	42.	true
18.	true	43.	false
19.	true	44.	true
20.	true	45.	false
21.	false	46.	true
22.	false	47.	false
23.	false	48.	false
24.	true	49.	false
25.	false	50.	true

imperative interrogative exclamatory declarative interrogative declarative interrogative declarative interrogative declarative exclamatory exclamatory	51	true
interrogative exclamatory declarative interrogative declarative declarative declarative interrogative declarative exclamatory	2	exclamatory
exclamatory declarative interrogative declarative declarative declarative interrogative declarative exclamatory	3	imperative
declarative interrogative declarative interrogative declarative declarative imperative exclamatory	4	interrogative
interrogative declarative interrogative declarative declarative imperative exclamatory	5. <sub>-</sub>	exclamatory
declarative interrogative declarative imperative exclamatory	6	declarative
interrogative declarative imperative exclamatory	7	interrogative
declarative imperative exclamatory	8	declarative
imperative exclamatory	9	interrogative
exclamatory	0	declarative
	1	imperative
imperative	2	exclamatory
	3	imperative

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C. D.

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