Guess who's tiny, brown, and has a violin-like marking on its back? That's right, it's the brown recluse spider! This little arachnid is about the size of a quarter, including its legs, and its color can vary from sandy beige to dark brown. The marking on its back, which kind of looks like a violin, is one of the things that sets the brown recluse apart from other spiders. Another unique feature is that it has only six eyes instead of the usual eight that most spiders have!

If you're wondering where this six-eyed creature calls home, you'll find them mostly in the central and southern parts of the United States. They prefer to live in dark,



secluded places, like under rocks or in woodpiles, and they even sometimes sneak into people's houses! These spiders are not social, so they like to be alone most of the time. And when it comes to dinner time, they like to feast on little insects like cockroaches and crickets.

Now let's talk about the life cycle of our violin-backed friend. The female brown recluse lays eggs in a sticky, off-white silken sac, and after about a month, tiny spiderlings emerge. These little ones grow up to become adults in about a year, and can live for two to four years, which is quite long for a spider. Did you know that these spiders play an important role in the ecosystem by controlling the population of the insects they eat?



Now, you might be wondering, do these spiders get along with humans? Well, brown recluse spiders are actually quite shy and prefer to keep to themselves rather than interact with humans or other animals. They only bite when they feel threatened, and their venom can be harmful to humans, so it's best to leave them alone if you see one. And that's our little six-eyed, violin-backed friend, the brown recluse spider, a unique creature that prefers a quiet life, munching on insects and playing its part in the balance of nature.



Brown Recluse Spider

Solve each problem.

S0I V	e each problem.		
Use	the article to answer the question.		
1)	What color can the brown recluse spider be?		
	A. Beige to brown	. Black and wh	ite
	C. Red and yellow	. Green and blu	ie
2)	What does the mark on the back of a brown r	use spider look	like?
	A. It looks like an arrow.	. It looks like a	
	C. It looks like a circle.	. It looks like a	star.
3)	What is unique about the brown recluse spide	eyes?	
	A. It has eight eyes	. It has six eyes	
	C. It has two eyes	. It has four eye	es
4)	How do brown recluse spiders usually behave	ound humans?	
	A. They are aggressive and attack	. They are curio	ous and investigate
	C. They are shy and prefer to keep to themselves	. They are frier	dly and approachable
5)	How long does it take for a brown recluse sp	to grow from a	eniderling to an adult?
3)	A. About a year	. A few weeks	spidering to an addit:
	C. A few days	. Several years	
	•	-	
6)	What size is the brown recluse spider, includ	-	
	A. About the size of a football	About the size	
	C. About the size of a hand	. About the size	e of a quarter
7)	Where can you mostly find brown recluse sp	rs?	
	A. In the southern part of mexico	In the norther States	n parts of the United
	C. In the central and southern parts of the United States	. In the western	a part of Canada
8)	Where does the brown recluse spider prefer t	ve?	
0)	A. In bustling cities	. On tree tops	
	C. In dark, secluded places	. In wide open	spaces
9)	Are brown recluse spiders social or do they li	to be alone?	
")	A. They only live with their babies.		social and live in large
		groups.	
	C. They like to be alone most of the		ive with other types of
	time.	spiders.	
10)	Which choice might the brown recluse spider	efer to eat?	
	A. Leaves	. Insects	
	C. Seeds	. Rodents	



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

- 11) "My back has a marking which is shaped like a violin. It helps others identify me and my kind."
- **12)** "If you see me, it's best to leave me alone unless you want to get bitten. My venom is dangerous for humans."
- **13)** "Not only am I smaller than other spiders, but I also have just six eyes, unlike the usual eight."
- 14) "My eight eyes help me see in the dark."
- 15) "It takes me about a year to mature into an adult and I can live for two to four years."
- 16) "Flowers and fruits make up my favorite meal."
- 17) "I can't live longer than a year. It's too much."
- 18) "I'm a simple spider. Give me a few small insects like crickets or cockroaches and I'm happy."
- 19) "After my mom lays eggs, we hatch from those eggs after around a month."
- 20) "I'm actually pretty tiny, just about the size of a bottle cap."
- 21) "I am an extremely social creature who loves being in groups."
- 22) "Like an introvert, I prefer to live a solitary life, enjoying my peace."
- 23) "Oh, I love to eat plants and leaves. They're delicious."
- 24) "I love to tuck myself into dark corners, under rocks or in the quiet corners of human houses. Anywhere I can be alone."
- 25) "I despise dark, secluded places."
- 26) "One can easily find me in the northern part of the United States."
- 27) "I make my home mostly in the central and southern parts of the United States."

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

- **28)** Brown recluse spiders prefer to stay in dark, hidden places.
- **29)** Brown recluse spiders have the most interesting design out of all the spiders.
- **30)** You can often find brown recluse spiders in the central and southern United States.
- **31)** The fact that the brown recluse live for four years is interesting.
- **32)** This spider is identifiable by a unique mark on its back, similar to a violin.
- **33)** It's quite scary to know that a brown recluse spider can live in people's houses.
- **34)** Their diet mainly consists of small insects such as crickets and cockroaches.
- **35)** Unlike most spiders that have eight eyes, brown recluses only have six.
- **36)** Brown recluse spiders are way cooler than other spiders because they only have six eyes instead of eight.
- **37)** Brown recluse spiders, with their dangerous bite, are the worst spiders in the world.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

38) Brown recluse spiders lay eggs.

	Brown Reclu	ise !	Spider	Name:
<u>39</u>)	Brown recluse spiders are herbivores.		*	
40)	Brown recluse spiders feast on cockroaches	and	crickets.	
41)	Brown recluse spiders have 2 eyes unlike m	ost (other spiders.	
42)	Brown recluse spiders are mostly found in the States.	he c	entral and southern parts of t	he United
43)	Brown recluse spiders tend to live in brightl	y lit	places.	
4 4)	Brown recluse spiders are the size of a huma	an h	and.	
45)	Brown recluse spiders can live up to twenty	yea	rs.	
46)	Brown recluse spiders will typically only bit	te w	hen they feel threatened.	
47)	The brown recluse spider's venom can be ha	ırmf	ul to humans.	
Dete 48)	ermine which choice is the expanded form of <u>They'd</u> rather stay hidden than interact with h A. They did C. They had	hum B.		
49)	Their bites <u>aren't</u> usually dangerous, but it's s A. are not C. is not	B.	important to be careful. were not will not	
50)	Brown recluse spiders <u>don't</u> have eight eyes	like	most spiders.	
	A. does not	B.	will not	
	C. cannot	D.	do not	
51)	If you spot one, it's best to keep your distanc	e.		
	A. it is	B.	it was	
	C. it does	D.	it has	
52)	They're not very big, usually about the size of	of a (quarter.	
	A. They do	B.	They is	
	C. They are	D.	They were	
	ermine if the sentence is a declarative(d), ex erative(m).	xcla	matory(e), interrogative(i)	or
53)	Brown recluse spiders are also known as fid	dlet	back or violin spiders.	
54)	Brown recluse spiders can survive in extrem	ie w	eather conditions, that's incre	edible!
55)	Brown recluse spiders have a violin-shaped	mar	king on their bodies.	
56)	What do brown recluse spiders eat?			

- 57) Why are brown recluse spiders called "recluse"?
- **58)** The fact brown recluse spiders can survive without food or water for up to six months is incredible!
- **59**) Brown recluse spiders are usually light to medium brown in color.
- **60)** Are brown recluse spiders venomous?



61) Their venom is strong enough to cause serious skin reactions, it's scary but true!

		Brown R	Recluse Spider	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			
13.		38			
14.		39			
15.		40			
16.		41			
17.		42			
18.		43			
19.		44			
20.		45			
21.		46.			
22.		47			
23.		48			
24.		49			
25.	Deading	50			
	Reading	www.CommonCoreSh	eets.com Page 6 of 6		

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Name: Answer Key

Solve each problem.

5017	e each problem.					
Use	the article to answer the question.					
1)	What color can the brown recluse spider be?					
	A. Beige to brown	В.	Black and white			
	C. Red and yellow	D.	Green and blue			
2)	What does the mark on the back of a brown recluse spider look like?					
	A. It looks like an arrow.	В.	It looks like a violin.			
	C. It looks like a circle.	D.	It looks like a star.			
3)	What is unique about the brown recluse spide	er's e	eyes?			
	A. It has eight eyes	В.	It has six eyes			
	C. It has two eyes	D.	It has four eyes			
4)	How do brown recluse spiders usually behave	e aro	ound humans?			
	A. They are aggressive and attack	В.	They are curious and investigate			
	C. They are shy and prefer to keep to themselves	D.	They are friendly and approachable			
5)	How long does it take for a brown recluse spi	der	to grow from a spiderling to an adult?			
-)	A. About a year		A few weeks			
	C. A few days	D.	Several years			
-			-			
6)	What size is the brown recluse spider, includi	-	-			
	A. About the size of a football		About the size of a baseball			
	C. About the size of a hand	D.	About the size of a quarter			
7)	Where can you mostly find brown recluse spiders?					
	A. In the southern part of mexico	В.	In the northern parts of the United States			
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	A. In bustling cities	В.	On tree tops			
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9)	Are brown recluse spiders social or do they li	ke t	o be alone?			
	A. They only live with their babies.	B.	They are very social and live in large groups.			
	C. They like to be alone most of the time.	D.	They always live with other types of spiders.			
10)	Which choice might the brown recluse spider	pre	fer to eat?			
,	A. Leaves	-	Insects			
	C. Seeds	D.	Rodents			



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

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	Brown Recluse	e Spider	Name:	Answer Key		
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43)	Brown recluse spiders tend to live in brightly	it places.				
44)	Brown recluse spiders are the size of a human	hand.				
45)	Brown recluse spiders can live up to twenty ye	ears.				
46)	Brown recluse spiders will typically only bite	when they feel threatened.				
47)	The brown recluse spider's venom can be harm	nful to humans.				
Dete	ermine which choice is the expanded form of	the underlined contraction.				
48)	<u>They'd</u> rather stay hidden than interact with hu					
	A. They did	B. They would				
	C. They had	D. They will				
49)	Their bites aren't usually dangerous, but it's stil	l important to be careful.				
,		B. were not				
	C. is not	D. will not				
50)	Brown recluse spiders <u>don't</u> have eight eyes lik	e most spiders.				
,		B. will not				
	C. cannot	D. do not				
51)	If you spot one, <u>it's</u> best to keep your distance.					
		B. it was				
	C. it does	D. it has				
52)	52) <u>They're</u> not very big, usually about the size of a quarter.					
)		B. They is				
	C. They are	D. They were				
Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).						
53)	Brown recluse spiders are also known as fiddleback or violin spiders.					
54)	Brown recluse spiders can survive in extreme weather conditions, that's incredible!					
55)	Brown recluse spiders have a violin-shaped marking on their bodies.					

- **56**) What do brown recluse spiders eat?
- 57) Why are brown recluse spiders called "recluse"?
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		Br	rown Recluse S	Spider		Name:	Answer Key
1.	Α	26.	false	51.	Α		
2.	B	27.	true	52.	С	_	
3.	В	28.	fact	53.	declarative	_	
4.	С	29.	opinion	54.	exclamatory	_	
5.	A	30.	fact	55.	declarative	_	
6.	D	31	opinion	56.	interrogative	_	
7.	С	32	fact	57.	interrogative	_	
8.	С	33.	opinion	58.	exclamatory	_	
9.	С	34	fact	59.	declarative		
10.	В	35	fact	60.	interrogative		
11.	true	36.	opinion	61.	exclamatory		
12.	true	37	opinion				
13.	true	38	true				
14.	false	39	false				
15.	true	40	true				
16.	false	41.	false				
17.	false	42.	true				
18.	true	43.	false				
19.	true	44	false				
20.	true	45	false				
21.	false	46	true				
22.	true	47	true				
23.	false	48.	В				
24.	true	49	Α				
25.	false	50.	D				
		www.Commor	CoreSheets.com	Page 5	5 of 5		

Brown Recluse Spider

D.

B. Black and white

Solve each problem. Use the article to answer the question. 1) What color can the brown recluse spider be? (paragraph 1) A. Beige to brown C.

themselves

2) What does the mark on the back of a brown recluse spider look like? (paragraph 1) B. It looks like a violin. A.

C. D. 3) What is unique about the brown recluse spider's eyes? (paragraph 1)

B. It has six eyes A. C. D.

4) How do brown recluse spiders usually behave around humans? (paragraph 4)

B. They are curious and investigate A. C. They are shy and prefer to keep to D.

5) How long does it take for a brown recluse spider to grow from a spiderling to an adult? (paragraph 3) A. About a year B. A few weeks

C. D.

6) What size is the brown recluse spider, including its legs? (paragraph 1)

A. About the size of a football	B. About the size of a baseball
С.	D. About the size of a quarter

7) Where can you mostly find brown recluse spiders? (paragraph 2) A. In the southern part of mexico B. In the northern parts of the United States

- C. In the central and southern parts of the United States
- 8) Where does the brown recluse spider prefer to live? (paragraph 2)
 - A. In bustling cities B. On tree tops C. In dark, secluded places D.

9) Are brown recluse spiders social or do they like to be alone? (paragraph 2) They are your coold and live in large A р

А.	B. They are very social and live in large
	groups.
C. They like to be alone most of the	D.

D.

- time.
- 10) Which choice might the brown recluse spider prefer to eat? (paragraph 2)
 - A. Leaves B. Insects C. D.



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

- 11) "My back has a marking which is shaped like a violin. It helps others identify me and my kind." (paragraph 1)
- **12)** "If you see me, it's best to leave me alone unless you want to get bitten. My venom is dangerous for humans." (paragraph 4)