



Imagine a tiny creature, no bigger than your fingernail, hopping around the lush green leaves in your backyard. Yes, we're talking about leaf hoppers! These small, usually brightly colored insects are quite marvelous to look at with their wedge-shaped bodies and wings that look like a roof when folded. The adults can even jump up to 20 times their body length! Now that's a super jumper right there. With over 20,000 different types, there's a whole lot of variety in the world of leaf hoppers.



Taking a leap from how they look, let's find out what these little hoppers munch on. Leaf hoppers are plant eaters, and they love to sip on the sap from the underside of leaves. They use their needle-like mouthparts to pierce through the plant tissues and reach the sap. Yum! But their eating habits can sometimes cause damage to the plants, making them a bit of a nuisance for gardeners.

Speaking of gardeners, let's see how these tiny creatures coexist with humans and other animals. While they might be a little annoying for those with green thumbs, leaf hoppers play a crucial role in the ecosystem. They are a yummy food source for various birds and insects, and their feeding can even help some plants by stimulating growth! However, they can also spread plant diseases, which is not so great for our leafy friends.



Finally, it's time to dive into the life cycle of these amazing insects. A leaf hopper's life begins as an egg, neatly tucked inside a plant stem or leaf by their mother. After a few weeks, they hatch as nymphs and start their journey towards adulthood, shedding their skin several times along the way. So, leaf hoppers are not only great jumpers but also remarkable survivors, from tiny eggs to colorful adults.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) Where do leaf hoppers lay their eggs?
 - A. Inside a plant stem or leaf
 - B. In the soil
 - C. On tree bark
 - D. In spider webs

- 2) What is the shape of a leaf hopper's body?
 - A. They have long, thin bodies.
 - B. They have flat bodies.
 - C. They have wedge-shaped bodies.
 - D. They have round bodies.

- 3) Which best describes a leaf hoppers diet?
 - A. Herbivore
 - B. Carnivore
 - C. Omnivore
 - D. Insectivore

- 4) What is the role of leaf hoppers in the ecosystem?
 - A. They control the population of harmful pests.
 - B. They are a food source for birds and insects.
 - C. They help in pollination.
 - D. They help spread seeds.

- 5) How do leaf hoppers help some plants?
 - A. By helping to spread the seeds
 - B. By stimulating growth
 - C. By protecting them from predators
 - D. By pollinating them

- 6) How many different types of leaf hoppers are there?
 - A. Over 20,000
 - B. Around 1,000
 - C. Less than 100
 - D. Over 50,000

- 7) What part of their body do leaf hoppers use to extract sap from plants?
 - A. Their corrosive stomach acid
 - B. Their drill like stinger
 - C. Their needle-like mouthparts
 - D. Their sharp claws

- 8) How big can leaf hoppers jump?
 - A. Up to 15 times their body length
 - B. Up to 5 times their body length
 - C. Up to 10 times their body length
 - D. Up to 20 times their body length

- 9) Are leaf hoppers harmful to plants?
 - A. Only during certain seasons.
 - B. No, they are beneficial to plants.
 - C. Yes, their eating habits can cause damage to plants.
 - D. No, they only consume dead leaves.

- 10) What is leaf hoppers' favorite food?
 - A. Fruits
 - B. Leaves
 - C. Sap
 - D. Flowers

- 11) What is the size of a leaf hopper?
 - A. More than 3 inches
 - B. Microscopic
 - C. About a foot
 - D. Less than 3 inches



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

- 12) "I often get scolded by gardeners, my eating habits can be a bit destructive for their lovely plants."
- 13) "After we hatch, we're called nymphs. It's kind of like being a toddler, but we shed our skin instead of outgrowing clothes!"
- 14) "You see these wedge-shaped bodies? They're not just for show – they're my survival tools!"
- 15) "I am a gardener's best friend. I help fertilize plants."
- 16) "I have a very specific diet. I stick to sipping on sap from plants, it's my version of fast food."
- 17) "My life begins as a full-grown adult."
- 18) "I like eating meat more than plants."
- 19) "Birds and insects love making a meal out of me."
- 20) "I go from an egg to a nymph in just a few weeks. Talk about growing up quick."
- 21) "My needle-like mouth is not just for show, I use it to pierce plant tissues and reach the yummy sap."
- 22) "I hate bright colors and am usually colorless."
- 23) "I have to be careful not to spread plant diseases. If a plant gets a disease from me, it may not grow properly."
- 24) "All us leaf hoppers look same as there's no variety."
- 25) "Each of my kind comes with a unique color and pattern. We are a rainbow of leaf hoppers!"
- 26) I can't jump, but I am very quick!
- 27) "I never spread any diseases."
- 28) "I bet no one can beat me in a jumping contest, I can jump 20 times my body length!"

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

- 29) Leaf hoppers can sometimes harm plants when they eat.
- 30) Leaf hoppers are incredibly interesting because they can jump up to 20 times their body length.
- 31) Leaf hoppers eat by sipping sap.
- 32) Leaf hoppers are amazing looking with their wedge-shaped bodies and colorful wings.
- 33) An adult leaf hopper can jump up to 20 times its body length.
- 34) The fact that leaf hoppers can spread plant diseases is the most worst thing about them.
- 35) A leaf hopper's life begins as an egg that is placed inside a plant stem or leaf.
- 36) There are over 20,000 different types of leaf hoppers.
- 37) Leaf hoppers are one of the most beautiful insects because of their brightly colored bodies.
- 38) With over 20,000 types of leaf hoppers, it is fascinating how diverse they are.

Determine if the statement is true or false.



- 63) Gently catch a leaf hopper using a small net.
- 64) Wow, leafhoppers can jump really high and fast!
- 65) Please be careful not to step on the leaf hoppers.



Leaf Hoppers

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|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u> A </u> | 26. <u> false </u> | 51. <u> D </u> |
| 2. <u> C </u> | 27. <u> false </u> | 52. <u> A </u> |
| 3. <u> A </u> | 28. <u> true </u> | 53. <u> C </u> |
| 4. <u> B </u> | 29. <u> fact </u> | 54. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 5. <u> B </u> | 30. <u> opinion </u> | 55. <u> imperative </u> |
| 6. <u> A </u> | 31. <u> fact </u> | 56. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 7. <u> C </u> | 32. <u> opinion </u> | 57. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 8. <u> D </u> | 33. <u> fact </u> | 58. <u> declarative </u> |
| 9. <u> C </u> | 34. <u> opinion </u> | 59. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 10. <u> C </u> | 35. <u> fact </u> | 60. <u> declarative </u> |
| 11. <u> D </u> | 36. <u> fact </u> | 61. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 12. <u> true </u> | 37. <u> opinion </u> | 62. <u> declarative </u> |
| 13. <u> true </u> | 38. <u> opinion </u> | 63. <u> imperative </u> |
| 14. <u> true </u> | 39. <u> true </u> | 64. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 15. <u> false </u> | 40. <u> false </u> | 65. <u> imperative </u> |
| 16. <u> true </u> | 41. <u> true </u> | |
| 17. <u> false </u> | 42. <u> false </u> | |
| 18. <u> false </u> | 43. <u> true </u> | |
| 19. <u> true </u> | 44. <u> false </u> | |
| 20. <u> true </u> | 45. <u> false </u> | |
| 21. <u> true </u> | 46. <u> false </u> | |
| 22. <u> false </u> | 47. <u> true </u> | |
| 23. <u> true </u> | 48. <u> true </u> | |
| 24. <u> false </u> | 49. <u> B </u> | |
| 25. <u> true </u> | 50. <u> A </u> | |



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) Where do leaf hoppers lay their eggs? (paragraph 4)
A. Inside a plant stem or leaf B.
C. D.
- 2) What is the shape of a leaf hopper's body? (paragraph 1)
A. They have long, thin bodies. B. They have flat bodies.
C. They have wedge-shaped bodies. D.
- 3) Which best describes a leaf hoppers diet? (paragraph 2)
A. Herbivore B.
C. D.
- 4) What is the role of leaf hoppers in the ecosystem? (paragraph 3)
A. They control the population of B. They are a food source for birds and
harmful pests. insects.
C. D.
- 5) How do leaf hoppers help some plants? (paragraph 3)
A. B. By stimulating growth
C. D.
- 6) How many different types of leaf hoppers are there? (paragraph 1)
A. Over 20,000 B.
C. D.
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A. Their corrosive stomach acid B. Their drill like stinger
C. Their needle-like mouthparts D.
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C. D. Less than 3 inches



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- 12) "I often get scolded by gardeners, my eating habits can be a bit destructive for their lovely plants." (paragraph 2)