Crane flies are fascinating insects that you might have seen around your garden or near ponds. They look like giant mosquitoes, but don't worry, they don't bite! In fact, adult crane flies don't eat much at all, and some don't eat anything during their short lives. Their larvae, called 'leatherjackets,' feed on the roots of plants and can sometimes cause damage to lawns and gardens.



These interesting insects can be found all over the world and in various habitats. Crane flies like to live near water

sources like rivers, ponds, and marshes because their larvae need a moist environment to grow. Depending on the species, they can also be found in forests, meadows, and even deserts! With over 15,000 different species, crane flies are a diverse group of insects that have adapted to live in many different places.

The life cycle of a crane fly is pretty amazing! It all starts with the female laying her eggs in moist soil or water. Once the eggs hatch, the leatherjacket larvae spend most of their time underground, eating roots and decaying plant matter. After a few months, the larvae form a protective case called a pupa, and finally emerge as adult crane flies ready to start the cycle all over again.



Crane flies play an important role in their ecosystems and have some unique relationships with humans and other insects. While they don't provide any direct benefits to humans, they do help control the population of other insects by serving as food for birds, spiders, and other predators. Crane flies may look like mosquitoes, but they don't bite or transmit diseases, making them harmless to people. Their main defense is their ability to quickly fly away from danger, but if caught, they can also shed their legs to escape and then regrow them later! So, crane flies are not only fascinating insects with their unique appearances and life cycles, but they also play a valuable role in their ecosystems. Next time you see a crane fly, remember that they're harmless to humans and enjoy observing these interesting creatures!

Ы

Solv	e each problem.	
Use	the article to answer the question.	
1)	What is the main defense mechanism of cran	ne flies?
	A. Their ability to camouflage	B. Their ability to shoot webs
	C. Their ability to quickly fly away from danger	D. Their ability to sting
2)	What do crane flies shed to escape danger?	
_)	A. Their exoskeleton	B. Their antennae
	C. Their legs	D. Their wings
2)	Where do sumo fligs loss their error?	-
3)	Where do crane flies lay their eggs? A. In moist soil or water	B. In bird nests
	C. In trees	D. In the air
		D. mult an
4)	What is the name for crane fly larvae?	
	A. Pupae	B. Caterpillars
	C. Leatherjackets	D. Beetles
5)	Do crane flies bite?	
	A. Only certain species of crane flies bite	B. No
	C. Yes	D. Only female crane flies bite
6)	Where do crane flies like to live?	
	A. Crane flies like to live in trees	B. Crane flies like to live near water sources
	C. Crane flies like to live in the desert	D. Crane flies like to live in caves
7)	What do crane fly larvae eat?	
.)	A. Crane fly larvae don't eat anything	B. Crane fly larvae eat roots and
		decaying plant matter
	C. Crane fly larvae eat meat	D. Crane fly larvae eat other insects
8)	What do crane flies look like?	
,	A. They look like bees.	B. They look like dragonflies.
	C. They look like giant mosquitoes.	D. They look like small flies.
9)	Where can crane flies be found?	
7)	A. They can be found in forests,	B. They can only be found in gardens
	meadows, and even deserts.	and lawns.
	C. They can only be found in tropical	D. They can be found in deserts and
	rainforests.	glaciers.
10)	Do crane flies cause damage to plants?	
	A. Yes, their larvae can cause damage to	B. No, crane flies don't cause any
	lawns and gardens.	damage to plants.
	C. They actually help plants grow by	D. They only eat decaying plant matter,
	providing nutrients to the soil.	so they don't cause any damage.

Reading

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		Crane Flies	Name:		
11)	What do adult crane flies eat?				
	A. Adult crane flies don't eat	B. Adult cran	e flies eat plants		
	C. Adult crane flies eat garbage	D. Adult cran	e flies eat other insects		
	ermine if the statements is somet animal would say (N).	hing the animal would sa	y (W) or it it is not something		
12)	"I start my life cycle by laying m	y eggs high up in tree bran	ches!"		
13)	"Next time you see one of us, jus	t remember, we are comple	etely harmless."		
14)	"As babies, we leatherjackets like to stay on the surface and hunt for food."				
15)	"Only a few hundred of us crane flies exist in the world!"				
16)	"We love to stay near water bodies. It helps our larvae grow well."				
17)	"Our young ones, known as 'leath roots and decaying plants."	nerjackets', spend most of t	heir time underground, eating		
18)	"I wouldn't be seen anywhere nes snow."	ar a forest. We make our ho	omes in the cold Canadian		
19)	"Me and my larva buddies hate the	ne dirt!"			
20)	"Our babies, which we call 'leath	erjackets', munch on plant	roots."		
21)	"We adults eat so little! In fact, s	ome of us don't eat anythin	g during our short life."		
22)			. 11 !!		

- 22) "If I get caught by a predator, it's game over! I can't escape at all."
- 23) "You can spot us anywhere in the world, we're pretty good travellers."
- 24) "We don't lay eggs. Unlike other insects we give live birth!"
- 25) "Our life begins with our mom laying her eggs in moist soil or water."
- **26**) "We crane flies love being in super dry areas."
- 27) "I spend most of my adulthood eating to build up energy for my long life."
- **28)** "We are dangerous to humans and our bites can spread disease."
- **29)** "Did you know we look like huge mosquitoes? But, hey, we don't bite at all!"
- **30)** "We look scary, like mosquitoes, but we never bite or spread diseases."
- 31) "After spending few months underground, we come out as adult crane flies."
- **32)** "If we get caught, we have a special trick up our sleeve we shed our legs and then regrow them! Cool, isn't it?"

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

- **33)** Crane flies look like big mosquitoes, but they cannot bite.
- **34)** It's creepy that crane fly larvae live underground and eat plant roots.
- **35)** If a crane fly is caught, it can lose its legs to escape danger and regrow them later.
- **36)** Crane flies, with their long legs and wings, look way more interesting than other flying insects.
- **37)** Crane fly larvae are known as 'leatherjackets' and they feed on plant roots.
- **38)** Crane flies are scary because they look like giant mosquitoes.
- **39**) Crane flies serve as food for other creatures like birds and spiders.

	Crane Fli	es	Name:
40) The f	emale crane fly lays her eggs in wet soil	or water.	
41) Crane	e flies are cool to watch because they fly	fast and can even lose legs to	escape danger.
42) Crane	e flies are awesome creatures because the	y can live almost anywhere in	the world.
Determine	if the statement is true or false.		
43) Caug	nt crane flies can shed their legs to escape	e danger.	
44) The li	fe cycle of a crane fly starts with the fem	ale laying her eggs in dry soil	1.
45) Crane	fly larvae are called "leatherjackets".		
46) Crane	flies look like giant butterflies.		
47) Crane	e flies can be food for birds, spiders, and	other predators.	
48) Adult	crane flies eat a lot during their short liv	es.	
49) There	are over 20,000 different species of cran	e flies.	
50) Crane	e flies can only be found near water source	es.	
51) Crane	flies live near water sources like rivers,	ponds, and marshes.	
52) Crane	e flies are insects that can be found all over	er the world.	
Determine	which choice is the expanded form of	the underlined contraction.	
53) Their	wings are so delicate, it's hard to believe	they can fly.	
A. it		3. it is	
C. th	ey are	D. it has	
54) Crane	flies aren't dangerous to humans, so you	can observe them safely.	
A. ar	e not J	3. will not	
C. ar	e able	D. can not	
55) Crane	flies don't bite, so you shouldn't be scare	d of them.	
A. sh	ould have I	3. would not	
C. sh	ould never I	D. should not	
56) Crane	fly larvae can't survive without water.		
A. ca	nnot J	3. can always	
C. w	ould not I	D. will not	
57) <u>They'</u>	e not called crane flies because they look	like cranes.	
A. th	ey is I	3. they were	
C. th	ey are I	D. there are	
Determine	if the sentence is a declarative(d), excl	amatory(e), interrogative(i)	or
imperative			
58) Amaz	ing, there are over 15,000 species of cran	ne flies!	
59) Obser	we how crane fly larvae transform into p	upae and then adults.	

- **59**) Observe how crane fly larvae transform into pupae and then adults.
- **60)** Do crane flies bite humans?
- 61) Wow, crane flies don't bite!
- 62) Crane flies resemble giant mosquitoes.

	Crane	Flies	Name:				
63)	What do crane flies look like?						
64)) Crane flies don't bite or transmit diseases to humans.						
65)	Where can you find crane flies?						
66)	Crane fly eggs hatch into larvae called 'leat	herjackets'.					
67)	Remember to be gentle when handling crar	ne flies.					
68)	It's incredible how crane fly larvae can live	underground!					
69)	Tell your friends that crane flies don't bite.						
Det	ermine which choice is the conclusion that	can be drawn fro	om the statement.				
70)	Female crane flies lay their eggs in moist so locations?	oil or water. Why d	o they choose these				
	A. Crane flies only lay eggs on dry land.	B. Crane fly la environmen	rvae need a moist t to grow.				
	C. Crane flies are attracted to bright sunlight.	D. Crane flies eggs.	don't need water to lay				
71)	Crane flies can be found in various habitats. What does this tell us about them?	, including forests,	meadows, and even deserts.				
	A. Crane flies are adaptable and can live in different environments.	B. Crane flies conditions.	cannot survive in harsh				
	C. Crane flies can only survive near water.	D. Crane flies a habitat.	are limited to one type of				
72)	The crane fly's long legs break off easily, budeduced from this fact about crane flies?	ut they can still fly	without them. What can be				
	A. Crane flies' legs never break.	B. Crane flies	can't fly at all.				
	C. Without their legs, crane flies cannot fly.	D. Crane flies of flight.	lo not need their legs for				
73)	Crane flies can shed their legs to escape from reveal about their defense mechanisms?	m danger and regr	ow them later. What does this				
	A. Crane flies use their legs to attack predators.	B. Crane flies a predators.	are defenseless against				
	C. Crane flies rely on their size to scare predators.		nave unique ways to nselves from predators.				
74)	Crane flies look like giant mosquitoes, but t mean for people?	hey don't bite or s	pread diseases. What does this				
	A Crane flies are harmless to humans	B Crane flies	can make people sick				

- A. Crane flies are harmless to humans. B. Crane flies can make people sick.
- C. Crane flies' mouths don't have teeth. D. Crane flies are dangerous to humans.

	Crane Flies		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	64.	
15	40.	65.	
16.	41	66.	
17	42.	67	
18.	43.	68.	
19.	44	69	
20.	45.	70	
21.	46	71	
22.	47	72	
23.	48.	73	
24.	49	74	
25. Reading	50CommonCoreSheets.com	Page 6 of 6	

Crane flies are fascinating insects that you might have seen around your garden or near ponds. They look like giant mosquitoes, but don't worry, they don't bite! In fact, adult crane flies don't eat much at all, and some don't eat anything during their short lives. Their larvae, called 'leatherjackets,' feed on the roots of plants and can sometimes cause damage to lawns and gardens.



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The life cycle of a crane fly is pretty amazing! It all starts with the female laying her eggs in moist soil or water. Once the eggs hatch, the leatherjacket larvae spend most of their time underground, eating roots and decaying plant matter. After a few months, the larvae form a protective case called a pupa, and finally emerge as adult crane flies ready to start the cycle all over again.



Crane flies play an important role in their ecosystems and have some unique relationships with humans and other insects. While they don't provide any direct benefits to humans, they do help control the population of other insects by serving as food for birds, spiders, and other predators. Crane flies may look like mosquitoes, but they don't bite or transmit diseases, making them harmless to people. Their main defense is their ability to quickly fly away from danger, but if caught, they can also shed their legs to escape and then regrow them later! So, crane flies are not only fascinating insects with their unique appearances and life cycles, but they also play a valuable role in their ecosystems. Next time you see a crane fly, remember that they're harmless to humans and enjoy observing these interesting creatures!

Answer Key Name:

	Cruit		i vuille:	
Solv	e each problem.			
	the article to answer the question.			
1)	What is the main defense mechanism of c			
	A. Their ability to camouflage		Their ability to shoot webs	
	C. Their ability to quickly fly away from danger	n D.	Their ability to sting	
2)	What do crane flies shed to escape danger	r?		
	A. Their exoskeleton	B.	Their antennae	
	C. Their legs	D.	Their wings	
3)	Where do crane flies lay their eggs?			
	A. In moist soil or water	B.	In bird nests	
	C. In trees	D.	In the air	
4)	What is the name for crane fly larvae?			
	A. Pupae		Caterpillars	
	C. Leatherjackets	D.	Beetles	
5)	Do crane flies bite?			
	A. Only certain species of crane flies bite	e B.	No	
	C. Yes	D.	Only female crane flies bite	
6)	Where do crane flies like to live?			
	A. Crane flies like to live in trees	В.	Crane flies like to live near water sources	
	C. Crane flies like to live in the desert	D.	Crane flies like to live in caves	
7)	What do crane fly larvae eat?			
,	A. Crane fly larvae don't eat anything	В.	Crane fly larvae eat roots and decaying plant matter	
	C. Crane fly larvae eat meat	D.	Crane fly larvae eat other insects	
8)	What do crane flies look like?			
0)	A. They look like bees.	В	They look like dragonflies.	
	C. They look like giant mosquitoes.		They look like small flies.	
0)				
9)	Where can crane flies be found? A. They can be found in forests,	D	They can only be found in gardens	
	meadows, and even deserts.	D.	and lawns.	
	C. They can only be found in tropical	D.	They can be found in deserts and	
	rainforests.	2.	glaciers.	
10)	Do crane flies cause damage to plants?			
	A. Yes, their larvae can cause damage to lawns and gardens.	в.	No, crane flies don't cause any damage to plants.	
	C. They actually help plants grow by	D.	They only eat decaying plant matter,	

providing nutrients to the soil.

	Crane F	Flies	Name:	Answer Key		
11) What do adult cran	e flies eat?					
A. Adult crane flie	es don't eat	B. Adult crane flies eat plant	S			
C. Adult crane flie	es eat garbage	D. Adult crane flies eat other	insects			
Determine if the staten the animal would say (0	nimal would say (W) or it it is	not some	hing		
12) "I start my life cyc	le by laying my eggs high	up in tree branches!"				
13) "Next time you see	one of us, just remember	r, we are completely harmless."				
14) "As babies, we least	"As babies, we leather jackets like to stay on the surface and hunt for food."					
15) "Only a few hundred	ed of us crane flies exist i	n the world!"				
16) "We love to stay not	ear water bodies. It helps	our larvae grow well."				
17) "Our young ones, l roots and decaying	5	spend most of their time underg	ground, eat	ing		
18) "I wouldn't be seen snow."	anywhere near a forest.	We make our homes in the cold	Canadian			
19) "Me and my larva"	buddies hate the dirt!"					
20) "Our babies, which	we call 'leatherjackets',	munch on plant roots."				
21) "We adults eat so l	ittle! In fact, some of us c	lon't eat anything during our she	ort life."			

- 22) "If I get caught by a predator, it's game over! I can't escape at all."
- 23) "You can spot us anywhere in the world, we're pretty good travellers."
- 24) "We don't lay eggs. Unlike other insects we give live birth!"
- 25) "Our life begins with our mom laying her eggs in moist soil or water."
- **26**) "We crane flies love being in super dry areas."
- 27) "I spend most of my adulthood eating to build up energy for my long life."
- **28)** "We are dangerous to humans and our bites can spread disease."
- **29)** "Did you know we look like huge mosquitoes? But, hey, we don't bite at all!"
- **30)** "We look scary, like mosquitoes, but we never bite or spread diseases."
- 31) "After spending few months underground, we come out as adult crane flies."
- **32)** "If we get caught, we have a special trick up our sleeve we shed our legs and then regrow them! Cool, isn't it?"

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

- **33**) Crane flies look like big mosquitoes, but they cannot bite.
- **34)** It's creepy that crane fly larvae live underground and eat plant roots.
- **35)** If a crane fly is caught, it can lose its legs to escape danger and regrow them later.
- 36) Crane flies, with their long legs and wings, look way more interesting than other flying insects.
- **37)** Crane fly larvae are known as 'leatherjackets' and they feed on plant roots.
- **38)** Crane flies are scary because they look like giant mosquitoes.
- **39**) Crane flies serve as food for other creatures like birds and spiders.

			N	Angreen	Vor			
40)	Crane Flies	votor	Name:	Answer	Key			
,	The female crane fly lays her eggs in wet soil or w							
41) 42)	Crane flies are cool to watch because they fly fast	0	1	ger.				
42)	Crane flies are awesome creatures because they ca	in live almost anywhere in	the world.					
Dete	ermine if the statement is true or false.							
43)	Caught crane flies can shed their legs to escape da	nger.						
44)	The life cycle of a crane fly starts with the female	laying her eggs in dry soil.						
45)	Crane fly larvae are called "leatherjackets".							
46)	Crane flies look like giant butterflies.							
47)) Crane flies can be food for birds, spiders, and other predators.							
48)	Adult crane flies eat a lot during their short lives.							
49)								
50)	Crane flies can only be found near water sources.							
51)	Crane flies live near water sources like rivers, pon	ds, and marshes.						
52)								
Deta	ermine which choice is the expanded form of the	underlined contraction						
53)	Their wings are so delicate, it's hard to believe the							
	A. it was B. i	•						
	C. they are D. i	t has						
54)	Crane flies aren't dangerous to humans, so you can	observe them safely.						
)		will not						
	C. are able D. o	can not						
55)	Crane flies don't bite, so you shouldn't be scared of	them						
00)	-	would not						
	C. should never D. s	should not						
56)	Crane fly larvae <u>can't</u> survive without water.							
50)	-	can always						
		will not						
57)	They're not called arong fling because they look lik	0.00000						
57)	<u>They're</u> not called crane flies because they look lik A. they is B. t	hey were						
	-	here are						
	ermine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclam	atory(e), interrogative(i)	or					
	erative(m).	lingt						
	Amazing, there are over 15,000 species of crane f							
59)	Observe how crane fly larvae transform into pupa	e and then adults.						

- **59**) Observe how crane fly larvae transform into pupae and then adults.
- **60**) Do crane flies bite humans?
- 61) Wow, crane flies don't bite!
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	Crane F	lies		Name:	Answer Key			
<u>63</u>)	What do crane flies look like?	nes		Ivanic.				
64)	Crane flies don't bite or transmit diseases to	hum	ans.					
65)	Where can you find crane flies?							
66)	Crane fly eggs hatch into larvae called 'leath	erja	ckets'.					
67)								
68)	It's incredible how crane fly larvae can live							
69)								
Det	Determine which choice is the conclusion that can be drawn from the statement.							
	Female crane flies lay their eggs in moist soi							
,	locations?		5 5					
	A. Crane flies only lay eggs on dry land.	В.	Crane fly larvae need a n environment to grow.	noist				
	C. Crane flies are attracted to bright	D	Crane flies don't need wa	ter to lav				
	sunlight.	2.	eggs.	lier to rug				
71)	Crane flies can be found in various habitats,	inclu	iding forests, meadows, ar	nd even dese	rts.			
,	What does this tell us about them?		-					
	A. Crane flies are adaptable and can live in different environments.	В.	Crane flies cannot surviv conditions.	e in harsh				
	C. Crane flies can only survive near	D.	Crane flies are limited to	one type of				
	water.		habitat.	51				
72)	The crane fly's long legs break off easily, but	t the	y can still fly without them	n. What can	be			
	deduced from this fact about crane flies?							
	A. Crane flies' legs never break.		Crane flies can't fly at all					
	C. Without their legs, crane flies cannot fly.	D.	Crane flies do not need th flight.	heir legs for				
		1	C	XX 71 / 1				
73)	Crane flies can shed their legs to escape from reveal about their defense mechanisms?	n dar	iger and regrow them later	. What does	this			
	A. Crane flies use their legs to attack	B.	Crane flies are defenseles	ss against				
	predators.		predators.					
	C. Crane flies rely on their size to scare predators.	D.	Crane flies have unique v protect themselves from	-				
	-		-					
74)	Crane flies look like giant mosquitoes, but th mean for people?	iey d	on't bite or spread disease	s. What does	s this			
	A. Crane flies are harmless to humans.	B.	Crane flies can make peo	ple sick.				
	C Crosse flight as south a dealth have to ath	р		4 - 1				

- C. Crane flies' mouths don't have teeth.
- D. Crane flies are dangerous to humans.

			Crane Flies			Name:	Answer 1	Key
1.	С	26.	false	51.	true	_		
2.	C	27	false	52.	true	_		
3.	A	28.	false	53.	В	_		
4.	С	29.	true	54.	Α	_		
5.	<u> </u>	30.	true	55.	D	_		
6.	В	31.	true	56.	Α	_		
7.	<u> </u>	32.	true	57.	С	_		
8.	C	33	fact	58.	exclamatory	_		
9.	A	34	opinion	59.	imperative	_		
10.	A	35	fact	60.	interrogative	_		
11.	A	36	opinion	61.	exclamatory	_		
12.	false	37	fact	62.	declarative			
13.	true	38	opinion	63.	interrogative	_		
14.	false	39	fact	64.	declarative	_		
15.	false	40.	fact	65.	interrogative			
16.	true	41.	opinion	66.	declarative	_		
17.	true	42.	opinion	67.	imperative			
18.	false	43.	true	68.	exclamatory			
19.	false	44	false	69.	imperative	_		
20.	true	45	true	70.	В			
21.	true	46	false	71.	Α			
22.	false	47	true	72.	D	_		
23.	true	48	false	73.	D	_		
24.	false	49	false	74.	Α	_		
25.	true	50	false					
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	Crane	e Flies	Name:
Solv	e each problem.		
	the article to answer the question.What is the main defense mechanism of crA. Their ability to camouflageC. Their ability to quickly fly away from danger	В.	S? (paragraph 4)
	What do crane flies shed to escape dangerA.C. Their legsWhere do crane flies lay their eggs? (paragra	B. D.	^{h 4)} Their antennae
5)	A. In moist soil or water C.		In bird nests
4)	What is the name for crane fly larvae? (para A.C. Leatherjackets		Caterpillars
5)	Do crane flies bite? (paragraph 4) A. C.	B. D.	No
6)	Where do crane flies like to live? (paragraph 2 A.	В.	Crane flies like to live near water sources
7)	C. What do crane fly larvae eat? (paragraph 3) A. Crane fly larvae don't eat anything		Crane fly larvae eat roots and decaying plant matter
8)	C.What do crane flies look like? (paragraph 1)A. They look like bees.C. They look like giant mosquitoes.	D. B. D.	
9)	Where can crane flies be found? (paragraph 2)A. They can be found in forests, meadows, and even deserts.C.	B.	They can only be found in gardens and lawns.
10)	Do crane flies cause damage to plants? (par A. Yes, their larvae can cause damage to lawns and gardens.C.	В.	No, crane flies don't cause any damage to plants.

	Crane Flies	Name:	
11) What do adult crane flies eat?	paragraph 1)		
A. Adult crane flies don't eat	B. Adult crane f	lies eat plants	
С.	D.		

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

12) "I start my life cycle by laying my eggs high up in tree branches!" (paragraph 3)