

Did you know?

- Entomologists estimate that there are between 5 million and 150 million insect species on Earth.
- The fastest known insect is a dragonfly that has been clocked at 58 kilometres an hour!
- The heaviest insect in the world is the Goliath beetle from Africa. A big male can weigh up to 100 grams.
- A cockroach can live without its head for up to nine days. Yuk!
- A bee makes only around one tenth of a teaspoon of honey in its entire life.
- A housefly's rapid wing movement causes it to hum in the key of F.
- Houseflies usually take off backwards.
- The life expectancy of a house fly is generally 15–30 days.
- Certain types of grasshoppers and crickets have ears on their front legs.
- Houseflies taste with their feet – they even have taste buds on them. Maybe that's why they love walking on jam?
- Mosquitoes have killed more humans than all the wars in history.
- Some wasps sleep while hanging by their teeth. They can hibernate like this for months.
- Measuring more than half a metre, the Chan's megastick is the world's longest insect. It was discovered in 2008.
- Insects are the most numerous and successful creatures on the planet.
- Termites eat through wood two times faster when listening to rock music. Rock on, termites!
- Insects make up approximately 80% of the total number of creatures on Earth.
- Fossil records show that insects existed 390 million years ago. Some of the earliest insects (such as cockroaches) have changed very little in that time.
- Entomophagy is the practice of consuming insects as food. There are over 1,400 edible insect species. Mealworm anyone? Roasted cricket?