



Imagine a creature that looks like it's from an alien planet, but it's actually right here on Earth! That's the hickory horned devil caterpillar, a cool crawler with looks that are out of this world. These caterpillars are a bright green color, grow to be about as long as your hand, and have spiky horns on their heads that look scary, but are actually harmless. Plus, they have tiny red dots running down their sides, making them even more unique!



Now, with a name like 'hickory horned devil', you might wonder where these critters call home. Well, they're usually found chomping away on hickory, walnut, and persimmon trees in the eastern United States. They also like to munch on sweet gum trees and certain types of ash trees. Yummy! for them, at least.

So, we've learned that these creepy crawlies have a unique look and a particular taste in trees, but what about their life cycle? After hatching from an egg, our alien-looking friend will spend its time eating and growing until it's ready to become a pupa, kind of like a butterfly in a cocoon. After a few weeks, it will emerge as a beautiful Regal Moth, which is one of the largest moths in North America! Isn't that an amazing transformation?

It's been a wild ride learning about the hickory horned devil caterpillar, hasn't it? From its alien-like appearance to its interesting life cycle, there's so much to love about this unique creature. Though its horns might look scary, they're actually harmless to humans and other animals. And remember, despite their devilish name and appearance, these caterpillars transform into beautiful moths, proving that you can't judge a book by its cover!





Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What does a hickory horned devil caterpillar transform into?
 - A. a monarch butterfly
 - B. a viper moth
 - C. a hickory horned moth
 - D. a Regal Moth

- 2) What is one of the largest moths in North America?
 - A. Regal Moth
 - B. Giant Moth
 - C. Mega Moth
 - D. Super Moth

- 3) What color are the tiny dots on the hickory horned devil caterpillars?
 - A. yellow
 - B. green
 - C. red
 - D. blue

- 4) Where are hickory horned devil caterpillars usually found?
 - A. Europe
 - B. South America
 - C. The United States
 - D. Africa

- 5) How long does it take for a hickory horned devil caterpillar to emerge as a Regal Moth after becoming a pupa?
 - A. a few days
 - B. a few weeks
 - C. a few months
 - D. a few years

- 6) What color are the hickory horned devil caterpillars?
 - A. brown
 - B. red
 - C. black
 - D. green

- 7) What type of trees do hickory horned devil caterpillars eat?
 - A. pine, oak, maple, and birch trees
 - B. apple, pear, cherry, and plum trees
 - C. hickory, walnut, persimmon, sweet gum, and ash trees
 - D. bamboo, palm, eucalyptus, and willow trees

- 8) Are the horns on a hickory horned devil caterpillar harmful to humans and other animals?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Only to humans
 - D. Only to other animals

- 9) Do the spiky horns on the hickory horned devil caterpillars' heads hurt?
 - A. No, they are harmless.
 - B. Only if they shoot them out
 - C. Yes, they are sharp and can hurt.
 - D. Only the red portions are dangerous

- 10) Where in the United States are hickory horned devil caterpillars usually found?
 - A. Southern United States
 - B. Central United States
 - C. Western United States
 - D. Eastern United States

1-10	95	90	85	80	75	70	65	60	55	50
11-20	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0



- 11) What does a hickory horned devil caterpillar look like?
- A. bright green with spiky horns on their heads and red dots on their sides
 - B. red with long antennas and blue spots on their sides
 - C. brown with antennas on their heads and orange stripes
 - D. black with smooth horns and yellow dots

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

- 12) "Even though I have a unique look, I still undergo metamorphosis like other insects."
- 13) "I'm not like other tiny caterpillars you may have seen. I can grow to the size of your hand."
- 14) "I hate hickory trees, they taste awful."
- 15) "I spend my time nibbling on the leaves of trees. I especially love the leaves of hickory, walnut, and persimmon trees."
- 16) "My green color is not just for show, it helps me blend in with the lush green foliage."
- 17) "After a few weeks as a pupa, I am reborn as a beautiful Regal Moth, one of the largest moths in North America!"
- 18) "I do not like to eat from sweet gum trees."
- 19) "See these spiky horns on my head? They might look scary, but they won't harm you."
- 20) "It may sound unappetizing, but I love to eat leaves from the ash tree."
- 21) "I am tiny and barely visible."
- 22) "I don't transform into a moth, I remain a caterpillar throughout my life."
- 23) "You can find me mostly in the eastern parts of the United States."
- 24) "I metamorphose into a pupa, similar to how a butterfly stays in a cocoon."
- 25) "My horns are very dangerous and can harm you."
- 26) "I don't have any color on my body at all, I'm just plain green."
- 27) "My horns are not just for show! They make me look scary and protect me from predators."

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

- 28) Hickory horned devil caterpillars feed on hickory, walnut, and persimmon trees.
- 29) Hickory horned devil caterpillars are the most beautiful caterpillars.
- 30) Hickory horned devil caterpillars live in the eastern United States.
- 31) The Regal Moth, which the hickory horned devil caterpillar turns into, is one of the prettiest moths in North America.
- 32) These caterpillars are bright green in color.
- 33) The hickory horned devil caterpillar's transformation into a moth is one of the most incredible in the animal kingdom.
- 34) The Regal Moth is one of the biggest moths in North America.
- 35) Hickory horned devil caterpillars have red spots on their sides.
- 36) The hickory horned devil caterpillar looks like it belongs on an alien planet.



- 60) Are hickory horned devil caterpillars harmful to humans?
- 61) These caterpillars mainly eat the leaves of hickory, walnut, and sweetgum trees.
- 62) If you find a hickory horned devil caterpillar, gently pick it up and place it on a tree branch.
- 63) Wow, these caterpillars can grow up to 6 inches long!
- 64) Be careful with hickory horned devil caterpillars, their spines can sting!



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| 1. <u> D </u> | 26. <u> false </u> | 51. <u> A </u> |
| 2. <u> A </u> | 27. <u> true </u> | 52. <u> C </u> |
| 3. <u> C </u> | 28. <u> fact </u> | 53. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 4. <u> C </u> | 29. <u> opinion </u> | 54. <u> imperative </u> |
| 5. <u> B </u> | 30. <u> fact </u> | 55. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 6. <u> D </u> | 31. <u> opinion </u> | 56. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 7. <u> C </u> | 32. <u> fact </u> | 57. <u> declarative </u> |
| 8. <u> B </u> | 33. <u> opinion </u> | 58. <u> interrogative </u> |
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