



Say hello to a tiny creature that most people rather not meet - the bed bug! These little insects are about the size of an apple seed and have a flat, oval shape. They are brown, but after they eat, they turn reddish and get a bit bigger. You might not see them during the day because they like to hide in dark, cozy places.

Speaking of cozy places, let's talk about where these critters like to live. Bed bugs are named so because they love to live in beds, but they can actually live anywhere in your house. They prefer to be close to where people sleep because their favorite food is human blood. Don't worry, they don't cause any serious harm, but their bites can be itchy!

From biting to hatching, let's explore the life cycle of these tiny vampires. A female bed bug can lay hundreds of eggs in her lifetime, which are as tiny as a speck of dust. In about ten days, these eggs hatch into baby bed bugs called nymphs. These nymphs must have a meal of blood before they can grow and shed their skin five times to become adults.



Now, you might be wondering how these tiny bugs defend themselves. Well, unlike some insects, bed bugs don't have stingers or strong jaws to bite. Their main defense is being sneaky, hiding during the day, and coming out at night when you're asleep. So, always remember, these tiny, shy bugs could be anywhere since they are really good at hide and seek!



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What color does a bed bug turn into after it eats?
 - A. Yellowish
 - B. Greenish
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 - D. Blackish
- 2) When do bed bugs usually come out?
 - A. The middle of the day when the sun is warmest
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- 5) What should a nymph eat before it can grow?
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 - A. About 6 inches
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 - C. About 1 foot
 - D. Microscopic
- 10) What is the name of a baby bed bug?
 - A. Bugling
 - B. Pupa
 - C. Crib bug
 - D. Nymph

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

- 11) "I'm round and circular like a ball."



- 12) "I don't like being near where people sleep."
- 13) "We are pretty good at hide and seek, you won't see us during the day as we hide in dark, cozy places."
- 14) "I'm large and round, almost the size of a quarter."
- 15) "I, a female bed bug, lay thousands of eggs in a day."
- 16) "I prefer light and bright places."
- 17) "Yes, our food preference is pretty, specific, we like human blood. But rest assured, we don't cause serious harm."
- 18) "Just like you humans need food to grow, our nymphs must have their blood meal before they can grow into adults."
- 19) "After our meal of blood, we change color to be reddish and get a little plump."
- 20) "I have a stinger that I use for defense."
- 21) "Beds? No, not really my preference. Despite my name, I'm usually found on the floor."
- 22) "I can easily protect myself with my strong jaws."
- 23) "Did you know we can live anywhere in your house, not just your bed? That's why we're hard to find."
- 24) "Our bites are harmless."
- 25) "Unlike some other bugs, I don't have stingers or strong jaws to bite with. So, you see, being sneaky and hiding is my main defense."
- 26) "Our tiny eggs hatch into baby bed bugs called nymphs after about ten days."
- 27) "You'll never see our eggs, each one is as tiny as a speck of dust."
- 28) "Our eggs hatch in just a single day."
- 29) "We are small, just about the size of an apple seed and we have a flat, oval shape."
- 30) "I might be small, but I can lay hundreds of eggs in my lifetime!"

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

- 31) Bed bugs survive by feeding on human blood, especially while people are sleeping.
- 32) The way a bed bug changes its color after feeding is fascinating.
- 33) Bed bugs conceal themselves in dark, hidden areas during the daytime.
- 34) Bed bugs are the most disgusting bugs because they feed on human blood.
- 35) Bed bugs are as tiny as an apple seed and are flat with an oval shape.
- 36) It is creepy to know that bed bugs can live in beds.
- 37) Female bed bugs can lay hundreds of tiny eggs in their lifetime.
- 38) After feeding, bed bugs change color to reddish and slightly increase in size.
- 39) Bed bugs are really gross because they drink human blood.
- 40) Bed bugs are the most annoying insects to have in your house.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 41) Nymphs must have a meal of blood before they can grow and become adults.
- 42) Bed bugs have stingers to defend themselves.



- 43) Baby bed bugs are called nymphs.
- 44) Bed bugs are about the size of a quarter.
- 45) Bed bug eggs hatch in about ten days.
- 46) Bed bugs can be found in bright, open spaces.
- 47) A female bed bug can lay millions of eggs.
- 48) Bed bugs can live only in a bed.
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- 50) Bed bugs' favorite food is human blood.

Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 51) If you think you have bed bugs, it's best to tell an adult so they can help you get rid of them.
- 52) Bed bugs being able to survive temperatures from nearly freezing to 122 degrees Fahrenheit is truly astounding!
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| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
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|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>C</u> | 26. <u>true</u> | 51. <u>declarative</u> |
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| 3. <u>C</u> | 28. <u>false</u> | 53. <u>declarative</u> |
| 4. <u>D</u> | 29. <u>true</u> | 54. <u>interrogative</u> |
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12) "I don't like being near where people sleep." (paragraph 2)