



Insect Trivia

Cockroach facts

- Did you know that a cockroach can run nearly 14.5 miles per hour? That's faster than most people.
- No wonder they're so hard to catch. Although fast, they don't have a lot of endurance, so they can only run fast in short spurts. Roaches can go without eating for a month but will only live a week without water.
- A cockroach can live a week without its head. It only dies because without a mouth, it can't drink water.

Bedbug facts

- Bedbugs find people by the heat and carbon dioxide they give off. A bedbug will close in on an object that is only 2 degrees warmer than the surrounding air.
- Bedbugs sleep during the day and come out during the night to look for blood.

Who has more muscles--people or caterpillar?

- Each of us has 792 muscles in our bodies while caterpillars have a whopping 4,000 muscles in their bodies.

How many insect species are there?

- It is estimated there are 1.5 million to 30 million insect species on our planet. However, we have only identified approximately 750,000 so far.

Ant Facts

- An ant can lift 20 times its own body weight. That's like you lifting 20 of YOU up in the air!
- The odorous house ant smells like coconuts when crushed.

Spider Facts

- One of the most dangerous spiders is the Sydney Funnel-Web spider indigenous to Australia. This spider's bite is particularly nasty and can kill a person in 30 to 40 minutes.
- One spider egg may contain over 1000 baby spiderlings.
- Spiders have 48 "knees": 8 legs with 6 joints on each.

How far can a flea jump?

- Fleas can jump nearly 8 inches high and as far as 13 inches long. That doesn't seem vary far, but if you compare that with how high a person can jump, that person would have to jump over a 30 story building that's at least 800 feet wide.
- What kind of insect causes the Mexican jumping bean to jump?
- A caterpillar of a small moth burrows into the bean and eats away the insides. When it moves inside the bean it causes the bean to jump.

Interesting butterfly facts

- Did you know that butterflies see the colors red, green and yellow? Their taste sensors are located on their feet and a butterfly has to have a body temperature greater than 86 degrees to be able to fly.
- Representations of butterflies are seen in Egyptian frescoes at Thebes, which are 3,500 years old.
- Butterflies are related to crabs and lobsters! Why? Because like those sea creatures, butterflies have skeletons on the outside of their bodies. They're arthropods: insects, crustaceans, millipedes, centipedes and arachnids.

Bee facts

- A colony of bees has to fly almost fifty-five thousand miles and visit over 2 million flowers just to make a single pound of honey. Now that's a long trip.
- A single colony of honey bees contains between 20,000 and 80,000 individuals.
- Bees have been used as symbols for health, wealth, and prosperity by the ancients. Honey was used as currency by the Romans and later the image of the bee was minted on their currency.
- The honeybee, one of man's oldest insect friends, gives us honey, beeswax and most important of all, the fertilization of many of our crop bearing plants.