

Arthropod sorting



Each child gets a slip with one of these characteristics (there are a few duplicates); then, based on the characteristics, they sort themselves into "insects," "spiders," or "either one." Arthropods have exoskeletons (hardened exteriors instead of bones) and jointed legs, and include insects, spiders, centipedes, scorpions, pillbugs, and more, but this game only includes insects and spiders.

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| I can smell with my antennae (feelers). | (insect) |
| I am a wonderful recycler. | (insect) |
| I have eight legs | (spider) |
| I have two antennae (feelers) | (insect) |
| I often have wings | (insect) |
| Many people don't know how important I am. | (either one) |
| I hatch from tiny eggs. | (spider) |
| I often pollinate plants. | (insect) |
| I have three body parts. | (insect) |
| No one in my group can fly. | (spider) |
| I have two body parts. | (spider) |

I look like my mom when I hatch, and so does everyone in my group.
(spider)

I have compound eyes (up to thousands of little eyes all together)
(insect)

Some of my relatives have wings; some don't. . (insect)

I live in a colony with others like me. (insect)

I spin silk. (spider)

I have two parts (called pedipalps) that sometimes look like legs.
(spider)

I am very important to the environment. (either one)

I sometimes eat plants. (insect)

I am very important to the environment. (either one)

I never eat plants. (spider)

I go through metamorphosis (my body shape changes as I grow up).
(insect)

I spend some of my life as a larva (sometimes called a caterpillar).
(insect)

I am very important in your garden. (either one)

I often eat insects. (either one)

Sometimes birds eat me. (either one)

I don't have antennae (feelers). (spider)

I have an exoskeleton (the hard part of my body is on the outside). (either one)

Everyone in my group eats bugs. (spider)

I am very important in your garden. (either one)

I don't change shape (go through metamorphosis). (spider)

I often pollinate plants. (insect)

I have two pedipalps (jaw projections) than can look like legs. (spider)

I lay my eggs into silk sacs. (spider)

Some of my group are called "bugs" (if they suck plant juices).

(insect)

Almost all of us are harmless to humans. (either one)