

BE MOSQUITO SMART QUESTIONS

HEAD, THORAX, ABDOMEN QUESTIONS

Name two diseases carried by mosquitos.
(Malaria, West Nile, Zika, Dengue fever)

How long does it take for a mosquito to develop from egg to adult?
(10 to 14 days)

How many tubes does the mosquito proboscis have?
(Two)

How long does a male mosquito live?
(10 days)

To what body part are the wings of the mosquito attached?
(Thorax)

Why do female mosquitos need the protein in blood?
(To help develop eggs)

How many compound eyes does a mosquito have?
(Two)

What disease carried by mosquitos was of great concern during the summer Olympics in Brazil?
(Zika)

What are the two peak mosquitos times of day?
(Early morning hours and at dusk)

True or false: There is a commercially produced bacteria that can be put into

stagnant water to kill mosquito larvae.
(True)

True or false: Most mosquitos remain within one to three miles of where they hatched.
(True)

True or false: Mosquitos have sensors that can detect carbon dioxide?
(True)

What does CDC stand for?
(Centers for Disease Control, although it is now formally named the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. However, it is still called CDC.)

True or false: DEET, a mosquito repellent, kills mosquitos.
(False, mosquitos don't like the smell of DEET.)

What gas do mosquito larvae (wigglers) breathe?
(Oxygen)

True or false: Some species of adult female mosquitos hibernate.
(True)

True or false: Mosquitos generally fly below 25 feet.
(True)

True or false: There have been no cases reported in the United States of the Zika virus infection carried by mosquitos.
(False)

True or false: Commercial mosquito traps lure mosquitos by simulating warm, moist carbon dioxide-filled human breath.
(True)

True or false: Climate change is altering the environment in ways that could increase the potential of mosquito-carried diseases.

(True)

True or false: More than 5,200 US citizens have been infected with the Zika virus.

(True)

LEGS, WINGS QUESTIONS

True or false: Mosquitos have four clear-veined wings attached to their abdomen.

(False, two wings attached to the thorax)

True or false: A mosquito has eight legs.

(False, six)

True or false: Female mosquitos can lay six eggs at a time.

(False)

Name two mosquito breeding places.

(Flowerpots, birdbaths, gutters, or anyplace with stagnant water)

True or false: Dengue fever is carried by mosquitos.

(True)

True or false: Mosquitos like breezes.

(False, breezes, even from a fan, can throw off a mosquito's senses, making it difficult to fly)

True or false: There is a lemon-scented geranium flower that is known to repel mosquitos.

(True)

True or false: Zika virus infection is carried by mosquitos.
(True)

True or false: Malaria is carried by mosquitos.
(True)

True or False: Mosquito-related diseases kill 725,000 people each year.
(True)

True or false: Only female mosquitos "bite."
(True)

True or false: Mosquitos prefer temperatures below 50 degrees Fahrenheit.
(False)

How many clear-veined wings does a mosquito have?
(Two)

Name a disease carried by mosquitos.
(Malaria, West Nile, Zika, Dengue fever)

Does the male mosquito live longer than the female mosquito?
(No, a male lives 10 days and a female 42 to 56 days)

How many legs does a mosquito have?
(Six)

True or false: Measles is carried by mosquitos.
(False)

True or false: Only male mosquitos "bite."
(False)

True or false: Female mosquitos only attack at dusk when the sun is setting.
(False)

True or false: Female mosquitos attack day and night.
(True)

True or false: Female mosquitos lay their eggs on leaves.
(False)

True or false: Dark-colored clothing retains heat, attracting more mosquitos than light-colored clothing.
(True)

True or false: Installing a bug zapper on your patio will control mosquitos.
(False)

True or false: There is a cure for the Zika virus infection that causes birth defects.
(False, there is no cure)

True or false: The mosquito-carried Zika virus infection has been reported in more than 60 countries.
(True)

True or false: Human sweat attracts female mosquitos.
(True)

Which attracts more mosquitos, light-colored clothing or dark-colored clothing?
(Dark-colored clothing, because it retains heat)

True or false: Skin lotions and perfumes attract mosquitos.
(True)

True or false: Female mosquitos lay their eggs in stagnant (standing) water.
(True)

True or false: Mosquitos fly hundreds of miles in their life span.
(False)

True or false: Female mosquitos can beat their wings up to 500 times per second.
(True)

True or false: Female mosquitos have a pointed stinger on their abdomen that they use to pierce our skin to get blood.
(False)

True or false: Mosquitos are one of the fastest flying insects.
(False)

True or false: Male mosquitos attack during the day and female mosquitos attack at night.
(False, male mosquitos do not attack, females can attack day or night)

True or false: Mosquitos have been around since the Jurassic Period, making their species more than 210 million years old.
(True)

True or false: There have been no cases of West Nile virus in the United States.
(False)

What is considered to be the deadliest animal in the world?
(Mosquito, because of the diseases it can carry)

True or false: A large percentage of a bat's diet is mosquitos.
(False)

True or false: Dragonfly larvae eat mosquito larvae and adult dragonflies prey on adult mosquitos.
(True)

PROBOSCIS QUESTIONS

Name four diseases carried by mosquitos.
(Malaria, West Nile, Zika, Dengue fever)

How many species of mosquitos are known world-wide?
(3,500)

What virus infection transmitted by mosquitos causes a broad array of birth defects and neurological disorders?
(Zika)

What are the functions of the two tubes found in the female mosquito's proboscis?
(One to draw blood and one to pump out saliva containing a mild pain-killer and anti-coagulant)

How many different species of mosquitos are found in the United States?
(175)

What do mosquitos feed on most of the time?
(Fruit and plant nectar)

How many eggs can a female mosquito lay at a time?
(Up to 300 eggs)

How many eyes does a mosquito have?
(Four eyes: two compound eyes and two (ocelli) simple eyes)

How do male mosquitos locate females mosquitos?
(By the sound of their fast-moving wings)

What is the top speed for mosquito flight?
(About 1.5 miles per hour)

Where are the sensors on a mosquito that can detect carbon dioxide that is released when we breathe?
(On the antennae)

What is the name of the chemical in human sweat that attracts female mosquitos?
(Octenol)

How are diseases spread by mosquitos?
(Mosquitos spread diseases from parasites that are passed into a victim through the mosquito saliva released when drawing blood)

What fish feeds on mosquito larvae and is used worldwide to help control the mosquito population?
(Mosquitofish)

Name the one US state where Zika virus infection has not been reported.
(Alaska)

EYES, ANTENNAE QUESTIONS

How long does a female mosquito live?
(42 to 56 days)

Name three diseases carried by mosquitos.
(Malaria, West Nile, Zika, Dengue fever)

What does "mosquito" mean in Spanish?
(Little fly)

How many teeth do mosquitos have?
(None)

What is the long, pointed mouthpart female mosquitos use to pierce our skin called?
(Proboscis)

Where does a female mosquito lay her eggs?
(In stagnant, standing water)

True or false: A female mosquito can drink up to three times her weight in blood.
(True)

For approximately how many days does mosquito larvae live in stagnant water?
(10 days)

True or false: Mosquitos prefer temperatures over 80 degrees Fahrenheit.
(True)

True or false: Mosquito larvae are called wigglers.
(True)

True or false: Mosquito eggs cannot survive through the winter. (False)

True or false: Male mosquitos locate females by the sound made by rubbing their

back legs together.
(False)

Where do female mosquitos have heat sensors that can detect the warmth of the blood in your body?
(Around their mouthparts)

True or false: Mosquitos have heat sensors on their antennae that can detect the warmth of the blood in your body.
(False, on their mouthparts)

True or false: The swelling and itching of a mosquito "bite" is a minor allergic reaction to the mosquito saliva released when the female draws blood.
(True)

True or false: Mosquitos spread diseases from parasites that attach to their feet.
(False, from parasites that are released with the mosquito saliva)

True or false: West Nile virus transmitted by mosquitos first appeared in the United States in 1999 in New York.
(True)

Name one country where there has been a large outbreak of West Nile virus, which is transmitted by mosquitos.
(South Africa, Israel, Romania)

True or false: Malaria transmitted by mosquitos kills more than 1 million people a year, primarily in Africa.
(True)

True or false: West Nile and Zika viruses can cause high fever and paralysis.
(True)