Meal Worms Name:

Get ready to wiggle into the world of the mealworm! These little creatures are more than just an average bug. They are small, yellow-brown worms that are about one to two inches long. You might think they are slimy like other worms, but they're not! They have a hard outer shell, called an exoskeleton. And guess what? They're not even really worms, but the larval stage of the Darkling Beetle.



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hundreds of tiny, white eggs. After just a few days, the eggs hatch into tiny mealworms, which spend their time eating and growing until they're ready to turn into pupae. After a couple of weeks, the pupae transform into adult Darkling Beetles, and the cycle starts all over again!

Now that we know how they grow, let's dive into where you might find these critters and what they munch on. Mealworms are found all over the world and they love to live in dark, damp places like under logs or in your pet's food dish. Their favorite foods are grains, vegetables, and other decaying matter. But don't worry, they're not pests. In fact, they help break down dead plants and animals in the environment.



These little wiggly wonders aren't just interesting for their life cycle and diet, they also have a special relationship with humans and other animals. For humans, they're often used as food for pets like birds, fish, and reptiles, and some scientists are even studying them as a source of food for people! For other animals, they are a tasty snack and a crucial part of the food chain. So, the next time you see a mealworm, remember that they're much more than just a little worm – they're an important part of our world!

Meal Worms

Name:

Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

1) Which choich best describes the color of mealworms?

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6) What is another name for mealworms?

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C. Davidina Partialarus

D. Catarrill

C. Darkling Beetle larva D. Caterpillar

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8) How do mealworms benefit the environment?

A. They only eat plants that are poisonous to humans

B. They help break down dead plants and animals

C. They filter dirty water using a special sack in their abdomen D. They scare away pests that feed on crops

9) What do mealworms like to eat?

A. Grains, vegetables, and decaying B. Seeds and nuts matter

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10) What is one use of mealworms by humans?

A. a cheap source of protein B. pest control in gardens

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

11) "I dislike dark, enclosed spaces."



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- **26)** "I stay a mealworm forever."
- 27) "Decaying matter might not seem delicious to you, but it's a gourmet meal to us."
- 28) "I may look like a soft slimy worm, but actually I have a hard, dry exoskeleton."

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

- 29) Grains and vegetables, and other decomposing materials make up the diet of mealworms.
- **30**) It would be really cool to keep mealworms as pets.
- 31) Mealworms live in dark, humid places worldwide, such as beneath logs.
- **32)** Mealworms may look like caterpillars, but they are much better.
- 33) Mealworms are actually the larval stage of the Darkling Beetle.
- 34) It is amazing to think that mealworms can transform into a completely different creature.
- 35) Mealworms serve as a vital food source for pets like birds, fish, and reptiles.
- **36)** Mealworms transform into pupae after growing and eating.
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Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **39**) Mealworms have a hard outer shell, called an exoskeleton.
- **40**) After hatching, mealworms immediately turn into pupae.
- **41**) Darkling Beetles lay hundreds of tiny, white eggs.
- 42) Mealworms start life bright blue before becoming yellowish.
- **43**) Mealworms are often used as food for pets like birds or fish.
- **44**) Mealworms love to live in dry places.
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Meal Worms

Name:

- **46**) Mealworms are considered pests because they destroy crops.
- **47**) A favorite foods of mealworms is decaying matter.
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Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

- **49**) Mealworms <u>don't</u> eat during their pupa stage.
 - A. does not

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A. They are

B. They is

C. They have

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

- 54) It's shocking to realize that meal worms are not worms, but larvae of darkling beetles!
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- **61**) Where do meal worms live?
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- 63) Feed the meal worms small pieces of fruits and vegetables.
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	Meal Wo	orms	Name:	
1.	26.	51.		
2.	27.	52.		
3.	28.	53		
4.	29.	54		
5.	30.	55		
6.	31.	56.		
7.	32.	57.		
8.	33.	58.		
9.	34.	59.		
10.	35.	60.		
11.	36.	61.		
12.	37.	62.		
13.	38.	63.		
14.	39.	64.		
15.	40.	65.		
16.	41.			
17.	42.			
18.	43.			

19. 44.

20. 45.

21. 46.

22. 47.

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	1-10	95	90	85	80	75	70	65	60	55	50
4	11-20	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0

1.	A	26.	false
2.	C	27.	true
3.	D	28.	true
4.	D	29.	fact
5.	В	30.	opinion
6.	C	31.	fact
7.	В	32.	opinion
8.	В	33.	fact
9.	A	34.	opinion
10.	C	35.	fact
11.	false	36.	fact
12.	false	37.	opinion
13.	true	38.	opinion
14.	true	39.	true
15.	false	40.	false
16.	true	41.	true
17.	true	42.	false
18.	false	43.	true
19.	false	44.	false
20.	false	45.	false
21.	false	46.	false
22.	true	47.	true
23.	true	48.	true
24.	true	49.	В
25.	true	50.	A

		N
51.	D	_
52.	A	_
53.	C	
54.	exclamatory	_
55.	imperative	_
56.	interrogative	
57.	exclamatory	_
58.	declarative	_
59.	interrogative	_
60.	declarative	_
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65.	imperative	_



Meal Worms

Name:

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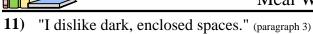
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