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.



Speaking of the Darkling Beetle, let's learn about the life cycle of these tiny wrigglers. It all starts when a female beetle lays

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)	1) Which choich best describes the color of mealworms?								
	A. green	В.	blue						
	C. red	D.	yellow						
2)	Where do mealworms like to live?								
	A. On leaves	В.	Sunny, dry places						
	C. In the sand at the beach	D.	Dark, damp places						
3)	How long does it take for mealworm pupae to) tur	n into adult Darkling Beetles?						
	A. a couple of weeks	В.	one year						
	C. a few hours	D.	6 months						
4)	How many eggs does a female lay?								
	A. Just one	В.	hundreds						
	C. they do not lay eggs	D.	millions						
5)	What is the hard outer shell of mealworms ca	lled	?						
	A. Shell	В.	Endoskeleton						
	C. Armor	D.	Exoskeleton						
6)	What is another name for mealworms?								
,	A. Worm	B.	Caterpillar						
	C. Darkling Beetle larva	D.	Snail						
7)	Where might you find a mealworm?								
	A. in trees	В.	under logs						
	C. in the ocean	D.	in caves						
8)	How do mealworms benefit the environment?	?							
	A. They help break down dead plants	B.	They scare away pests that feed on						
	and animals	Б	crops						
	C. They only eat plants that are poisonous to humans	D.	They filter dirty water using a special sack in their abdomen						
0)	What do mealworms like to eat?								
)	A. Seeds and nuts	B	Insects and worms						
	C. Mice and other rodents		Grains, vegetables, and decaying						
	e. The und other roughts	р.	matter						
10)	What is one use of mealworms by humans?								
	A. pest control in gardens	B.	a cheap source of protein						
	C. a filter for water	D.	food for pets						

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."

1-10										
11-20	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0

	Meal Worms Name:
<u>12</u>)	"I'm considered a pest." Name:
13)	"We fancy grains and vegetables, they provide us with all the nutrients we need."
14)	"Sure, I may look like a worm, but I'm actually a baby Darkling Beetle in disguise!"
15)	"I'm large, gray, and have a mushy body."
16)	"We transform into Darkling Beetles after a few weeks as pupae."
17)	"My mom can lay hundreds of eggs at a time, that's a lot of brothers and sisters!"
18)	"I'm actually quite soft and squidgy."
19)	"I'm quite slimy."
20)	"I'm a very popular pet."
21)	"I love sunny, dry environments."
22)	"You'll usually spot us hanging around in dark, damp places - we just love them!"
23)	"We start our life as eggs and then turn into tiny worms, which will eventually become beetles."
24)	"We only spend a few days as an egg. Then we hatch and start eating and growing."
25)	"Humans often feed us to their pets, because we are a good source of protein."
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."
Dete	ermine 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.
37)	Darkling Beetles are much more interesting than their larval stage, the Mealworm.
38)	It's fascinating that mealworms transform into Darkling Beetles.
Dete	ermine 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.
- 45) Mealworms eventually grow into fireflies or ladybugs depending on their gender.

	Meal Worn	ns	Name:
46)	Mealworms are considered pests because they of	destroy crops.	
47)	A favorite foods of mealworms is decaying ma	tter.	
48)	Mealworms are the larval stage of the Darkling	Beetle.	
	ermine which choice is the expanded form of t	he underlined contraction.	
49)	Mealworms <u>don't</u> eat during their pupa stage.	-	
		. do not	
	C. are not D	. will not	
50)	These little critters won't harm humans, so there	's no need to worry.	
	A. will not B	. do not	
	C. cannot D	are not	
51)	Mealworms <u>aren't</u> insects, they're the larvae of c	larkling beetles.	
	A. cannot B	. are able	
	C. will not D	are not	
52)	They're found in dark and damp places like und	er logs and rocks.	
,		. They is	
		. They were	
53)	Mealworms can't really defend themselves.		
22)		. will not	
		. are not	
	c. cannot L		

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!
- **55**) Sprinkle a small amount of water on the meal worms every day.
- 56) What do mealworms like to eat?
- 57) It's astonishing how meal worms can live up to two years!
- **58)** Mealworms are the larvae of darkling beetles.
- **59**) What interesting facts do you know about meal worms?
- **60)** Mealworms release a foul-smelling odor to deter predators.
- **61**) Where do meal worms live?
- **62)** Birds and reptiles love to snack on mealworms.
- **63)** Feed the meal worms small pieces of fruits and vegetables.
- **64)** Meal worms can eat a variety of things including grains, vegetables, fruits, and even decaying animals!
- **65**) Please handle meal worms gently.

		Meal Worm	IS	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.			
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25.		50			
	Reading	www.CommonCoreSheets.com	Page 5 of 5		

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Meal Worms

Name: Answer Key

Solve each problem.

1) Which choich best describes the color of mealworms? A. green B. blue C. red D. yellow 2) Where do mealworms like to live? A. On leaves B. Sunny, dry places C. In the sand at the beach D. Dark, damp places 3) How long does it take for mealworm pupae to turn into adult Darkling Beetles? A. a couple of weeks B. one year C. a few hours D. 6 months 4) How many eggs does a female lay? A. Just one A. Just one B. hundreds C. they do not lay eggs D. millions 5) What is the hard outer shell of mealworms called? A. Shell A. Worm B. Endoskeleton C. Jarkling Beetle larva D. Snail 7) Where might you find a mealworm? A. in trees A. in trees B. under logs C. in the ocean D. in caves 8) How do mealworms benefit the environment? A. They help break down dead plants and animals C. They only eat plants that are poisonous to humans D. They filter dirty water using a special sack in their abdomen 9) What do mealworms like to eat? A. Seeds and nuts B. Insects and worms C. Mice and other rodents D. Grains, v		the article to answer the question.	1	
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10) What is one use of mealworms by humans?A. pest control in gardensB. a cheap source of protein		C. Mice and other rodents	D.	
A. pest control in gardens B. a cheap source of protein				matter
	10)	What is one use of mealworms by humans?		
C. a filter for water D. food for pets		A. pest control in gardens	B.	a cheap source of protein
		C. a filter for water	D.	food for pets

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."

	Meal Worms	Name:	Answer	Key				
12)	"I'm considered a pest."	Iname.	Answer	ncy				
13)	"We fancy grains and vegetables, they provide us with all the nutrients we nee	ed."						
14)								
15)								
16)	"We transform into Darkling Beetles after a few weeks as pupae."							
17)	"My mom can lay hundreds of eggs at a time, that's a lot of brothers and sister	:s!"						
18)	"I'm actually quite soft and squidgy."							
19)	"I'm quite slimy."							
20)	"I'm a very popular pet."							
21)	"I love sunny, dry environments."							
22)	"You'll usually spot us hanging around in dark, damp places - we just love the	m!"						
23)	"We start our life as eggs and then turn into tiny worms, which will eventually beetles."	/ become	:					
24)	"We only spend a few days as an egg. Then we hatch and start eating and grow	wing."						
25)	"Humans often feed us to their pets, because we are a good source of protein."	'						
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 exoskeletor	n."						
Dete	ermine 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 r	nealworr	ns.					
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 differe	nt creatu	re.					
35)	Mealworms serve as a vital food source for pets like birds, fish, and reptiles.							
36)	Mealworms transform into pupae after growing and eating.							
37)	Darkling Beetles are much more interesting than their larval stage, the Mealw	orm.						
38)	It's fascinating that mealworms transform into Darkling Beetles.							
Dete	ermine 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)	Maalmanna lava ta lina in dun ulaasa							

- **44**) Mealworms love to live in dry places.
- **45**) Mealworms eventually grow into fireflies or ladybugs depending on their gender.

	Meal Wo	rm	\$	Name:	Answer Key			
46)								
,	•	•	•					
47)	A favorite foods of mealworms is decaying n	natt	er.					
48)	Mealworms are the larval stage of the Darklin	ng l	Beetle.					
Deta	ermine which choice is the expanded form of	f th	e underlined contraction					
	_		c undermica contraction.					
47)	Mealworms <u>don't</u> eat during their pupa stage. A. does not	D	do not					
	C. are not	D.	will not					
50)	These little critters won't harm humans, so the	ere's	s no need to worry.					
	A. will not	Β.	do not					
	C. cannot	D.	are not					
51)	Mealworms aren't insects, they're the larvae o	f da	arkling beetles.					
	A. cannot	B.	are able					
	C. will not	D.	are not					
52)	They're found in dark and damp places like u	nde	r logs and rocks.					
,	A. They are		They is					
	C. They have	D.	They were					
53)	Mealworms can't really defend themselves.							
-	A. are able	B.	will not					
	C. cannot	D.	are not					

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!
- 55) Sprinkle a small amount of water on the meal worms every day.
- 56) What do mealworms like to eat?
- 57) It's astonishing how meal worms can live up to two years!
- 58) Mealworms are the larvae of darkling beetles.
- **59**) What interesting facts do you know about meal worms?
- 60) Mealworms release a foul-smelling odor to deter predators.
- **61**) Where do meal worms live?
- 62) Birds and reptiles love to snack on mealworms.
- **63**) Feed the meal worms small pieces of fruits and vegetables.
- **64)** Meal worms can eat a variety of things including grains, vegetables, fruits, and even decaying animals!
- **65**) Please handle meal worms gently.

			Meal Worms			Name:	Answer Key
1.	D	26.	false	51.	D	_	
2.	D	27.	true	52.	Α		
3.	A	28.	true	53.	С	_	
4.	A	29.	fact	54.	exclamatory	_	
5.	D	30.	opinion	55.	imperative	_	
6.	C	31.	fact	56.	interrogative	_	
7.	В	32.	opinion	57.	exclamatory		
8.	A	33.	fact	58.	declarative	_	
9.	D	34	opinion	59.	interrogative	_	
10.	D	35.	fact	60.	declarative	_	
11.	false	36.	fact	61.	interrogative	_	
12.	false	37.	opinion	62.	declarative	_	
13.	true	38.	opinion	63.	imperative	_	
14.	true	39.	true	64.	exclamatory	_	
15.	false	40.	false	65.	imperative	_	
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.	Α				
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Meal Worms

Solve each problem.

Use	the article to answer the question.							
1)) Which choich best describes the color of mealworms? (paragraph 1)							
	А.	В.	blue					
	С.	D.	yellow					
2)	Where do mealworms like to live? (paragraph 3)							
	A. On leaves	B.						
	С.	D.	Dark, damp places					
3)	How long does it take for mealworm pupae to	o tur	n into adult Darkling Beetles? (paragraph 2)					
	A. a couple of weeks	В.	one year					
	С.	D.						
4)	How many eggs does a female lay? (paragraph 2)							
	A. Just one	В.						
	C.	D.						
5)	What is the hard outer shell of mealworms ca	lled	? (paragraph 1)					
	A. Shell	B.	Endoskeleton					
	С.	D.	Exoskeleton					
6)	What is another name for mealworms? (paragraphic paragraphic parag	oh 1)						
	A. Worm	В.	Caterpillar					
	C. Darkling Beetle larva	D.						
7)	Where might you find a mealworm? (paragraph 3)						
	A. in trees	В.	under logs					
	С.	D.						
8)	How do mealworms benefit the environment?	(par	agraph 3)					
	A. They help break down dead plants	B.	They scare away pests that feed on					
	and animals	P	crops					
	C.	D.						
9)	What do mealworms like to eat? (paragraph 3)							
	A. Seeds and nuts	В.						
	C.	D.	Grains, vegetables, and decaying matter					
10)	What is one use of mealworms by humans? (p	aragra	aph 4)					
	A. pest control in gardens	В.	a cheap source of protein					
	С.	D.	food for pets					

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." (paragraph 3)
- 12) "I'm considered a pest." (paragraph 3)