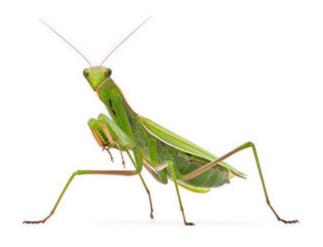
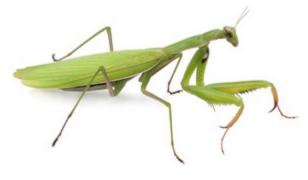


Imagine a creature that looks like it comes from an alien world, with a triangular head that turns 180 degrees and two big, bulging eyes. Well, there's no need to imagine, because such a creature exists right here on Earth - it's called a praying mantis! These fascinating insects are named so because of their prayer-like stance, with their two front legs folded as if praying. A praying mantis can be green or brown and can range in size from 0.5 to 6 inches, and it's a master of disguise, blending perfectly with its surroundings.



Speaking of surroundings, praying mantises can be found all over the world, living in a variety of environments. From warm, tropical rainforests to cool, temperate regions, these adaptable critters make their homes in trees, shrubs, and even in grassy meadows. They're most commonly seen in the spring and summer months, and if you're lucky enough, you might spot one in your own backyard! And do you know what's even cooler? Female mantises lay up to 200 eggs, which they encase in a protective foam that hardens into an egg case.

Now, let's talk about what happens when those eggs hatch. The baby mantises, called nymphs, look like miniature versions of their parents. As they grow, they shed their skin, a process called molting, until they become full-grown mantises. These insects are carnivores and eat a variety of insects, including flies and moths, and sometimes they even eat each other!



Lastly, let's not forget to mention the interesting relationship mantises have with other animals and humans. For some animals, mantises are a source of food, but for others, these stealthy hunters are a threat. Humans, on the other hand, appreciate mantises because they help control pest populations. So, next time you see a praying mantis, remember that it's not only an incredible insect, but also an important part of our ecosystem.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

1) What is the process called when baby mantises shed their skin?

A. Skinning B. Shedding

C. Mantising D. Molting

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4) What is special about the head of a praying mantis?

A. It can survive even without its head. B. It can turn its head 180 degrees.

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A. Black or white. B. Green or brown. C. Blue or red. D. Purple or yellow.

6) How many eggs can a female praying mantis lay?

B. up to 500 A. up to 100 C. up to 200 D. only one

7) Which best describes the diet of mantises?

A. herbivores B. insectivores C. carnivores D. omnivores

8) What time of year are praying mantises most commonly seen?

A. Spring and summer months B. Fall and winter months

C. All year round D. Random times throughout the year

9) What is the purpose of the foam that covers the eggs?

B. Helps eggs hatch faster A. Keeps eggs warm

C. Provides food for the nymphs D. Protects the eggs

10) Why do humans appreciate mantises?

A. They help clean rivers B. They make good pets

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11) Why are praying mantises named so?

A. because they are great hunters B. because they have triangular heads C. because of their prayer-like stance

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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).

- 12) "I'm vegetarian, I don't eat insects."
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- 20) "See my front legs? I fold them up when I'm at rest, so it looks like I'm praying."
- 21) "We remain the same size throughout our life."
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- 24) "From hot jungles to cool grasslands, I can make any place my home."
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- **26)** "Sometimes, survival gets tough and I have to eat my fellow mantises."
- 27) "When my babies, or nymphs, come out from eggs, they look exactly like me, but a smaller version."
- 28) "When it's time to lay eggs, I can lay up to 200 at a time! I protect them in a special hard case."
- **29**) "We only live in cold, snowy areas."
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Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 32) When hatched, praying mantis nymphs look just like their parents but in a smaller form.
- 33) Seeing a praying mantis in your backyard could be the most exciting part of your day.
- **34)** Female praying mantises can lay almost 200 eggs.
- 35) The way a praying mantis blends with its environment is absolutely amazing.
- **36**) The praying mantis is an insect that has large, bulging eyes and a triangular head which can rotate 180 degrees.
- 37) It's astonishing that a female mantis can lay up to 200 eggs!
- **38)** Praying mantises are carnivores eating a variety of insects, even including their own species.
- 39) Praying mantises can be found in many different environments all around the globe.
- **40**) Praying mantises have the most interesting look among all insects.



41) Praying mantises are quite scary because of their ability to turn their heads 180 degrees.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **42)** Mantises are a threat to some animals.
- **43**) Praying mantises are only active in the winter months.
- 44) The babies look like miniature versions of their parents.
- **45**) A praying mantis can turn its head 360 degrees.
- **46**) Baby mantises are called nymphs.
- **47**) Praying mantises are only green in color.
- **48)** Praying mantises are herbivores.
- **49**) Praying mantises only live in tropical rainforests.
- 50) The praying mantis get their name from their prayer-like stance.
- **51**) Female mantises lay up to 200 eggs.

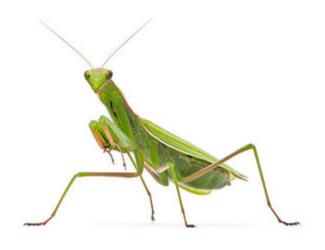
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- 54) What do some cultures consider praying mantises to be symbols of?
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- 58) Praying mantises are considered symbols of good luck and patience in many cultures.
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- 60) Praying mantises use their front legs to appear bigger and scarier when threatened.
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	Praying Mantis	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.	
15.	40.	
16.	41.	
17.	42.	
18.	43.	
19.	44.	
20.	45.	
21.	46.	
22.	47.	
23.	48.	
24.	49.	
25.	50.	
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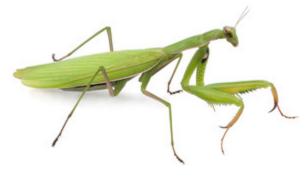


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Name:

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1.

D

Praying Mantis

true

Answer Key Name:

true 51.

C true exclamatory 27. 52. 2.

26.

D true imperative 3. 28. 53.

B false interrogative 4. 29. 54.

B true exclamatory 30. 55. 5.

 \mathbf{C} true declarative 56. 6. 31.

 \mathbf{C} fact interrogative 32. 57. 7.

A opinion declarative 8. 33. 58.

D fact interrogative 9. 34. 59.

D opinion declarative 60. 10. 35.

 \mathbf{C} fact imperative 11. 36. 61.

false opinion exclamatory 12. 37. 62.

false fact imperative 63. 13. 38.

opinion

true

fact true 14. 39.

false opinion 16. 41.

40.

42.

43.

false

false

true

15.

17.

18.

false

true true

19. 44.

true false 20. 45.

false true 21. 46.

false false 22. 47.

false false 23. 48.

true false 24. 49.

false true 50. 25.

Praying Mantis

Name:

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Use the article to answer the question.

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C. Beaches D.

3) What are baby mantises called? (paragraph 3)

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C. D. nymphs

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C. D.

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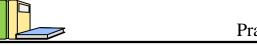
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Praying Mantis Name:

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 50
 42
 33
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 17