



Imagine a creature with eight hairy legs and a body as big as your hand, that's our friend the tarantula! These spiders are known for their large size, with some species' body reaching up to 4.75 inches and leg span up to 11 inches, making them one of the largest spiders in the world. They have a hard outer body called an exoskeleton, and they molt, or shed their skin as they grow. Their bodies are covered in tiny hairs that they use to sense vibrations in the air or on the ground.

Speaking of these gentle giants, did you know they have quite the appetite? Tarantulas eat a variety of foods, from insects like beetles and grasshoppers to small birds and mice. They don't eat like we do, though. They inject their prey with venom to paralyze it, and then they liquefy their food to drink it up! This might sound a bit creepy, but it's how they survive in the wild.

So, where can you find these fascinating creatures in the wild? Tarantulas live in a variety of habitats around the world, from deserts to jungles and forests. They make their homes in burrows underground, which they line with silk to keep out predators and weather. While they might seem scary, tarantulas are actually quite shy and would rather run away than fight.



Now you might be wondering, what makes tarantulas different from other spiders? For starters, unlike most spiders, tarantulas don't use webs to catch their prey. They also live much longer than most spiders, with some females living up to 25 years! So next time you see a spider, remember, it could be a tarantula, the gentle giant of the spider world, using its hairy legs to sense the world around it.





Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) How big can a tarantula's body get?
A. Not more than 3 inches
B. over 4 inches
C. Over 6 inches
D. Around 2 inches
- 2) Why are tarantulas different from other spiders?
A. They are always venomous
B. They are vegetarian
C. They live much longer than most spiders
D. They have more legs
- 3) What do adult tarantulas eat?
A. Plants, leaves and twigs
B. Adult tarantulas do not eat
C. Human skin, blood and hair
D. Insects, small birds and mice
- 4) What is the lifespan of female tarantulas?
A. Up to 25 years
B. Not more than 15 years
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- 5) How do tarantulas react when they encounter danger?
A. They fight back aggressively
B. They play dead
C. They release a bad smell
D. They try and run away
- 6) What does a tarantula use to sense vibrations?
A. Their eyes
B. Tiny hairs on their bodies
C. Their antennae
D. Their eight legs
- 7) Where would you NOT find tarantulas in the wild?
A. jungles
B. Cities
C. deserts
D. dry forests
- 8) Where do tarantulas make their homes?
A. In tree trunks
B. On leaves
C. In large webs they build
D. In burrows underground
- 9) Do tarantulas use webs to catch their prey?
A. No, they don't use webs to catch their prey
B. Yes, they use sticky webs to catch their prey
C. Yes, they use giant webs to catch their prey
D. Yes, they use complex webs to catch their prey
- 10) How do tarantulas protect their homes?
A. They hide it with rocks
B. They cover it with leaves
C. They line their burrows with silk
D. They build a door of dirt

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

- 11) "My lifespan is as short as other spiders, around a year or so."
- 12) "We tarantulas have a hard outer body called an exoskeleton. As we get older and grow larger we shed our skin!"



Tarantulas

Name: _____

- 13) "My way to eat is a lot different than yours. Instead of chewing my food, I inject my prey with venom to paralyze it, and then I liquefy their insides and drink it up."
- 14) "To detect movements and vibrations, I rely on the tiny hairs that cover my body."
- 15) "My species are known for our large size, with some of us even have a leg span as wide as an adult human's face!"
- 16) "I've got soft skin."
- 17) "Deserts are too hot for me."
- 18) "I live much longer than most spiders, some of us females living up to 25 years!"
- 19) "I always pick a fight when I see a threat."
- 20) "My size is as small as a thumb."
- 21) "Some of my species have bodies reaching almost 5 inches and legs spanning up to 11 inches, making us one of the largest spiders!"
- 22) "Mice are too big for me to eat, I just eat insects."
- 23) "I eat insects like beetles and grasshoppers, and sometimes even small birds and mice."
- 24) "I make my home underground in burrows. I line the burrow with silk to keep out unwanted guests and the weather."
- 25) "I love to spin webs to catch my prey."
- 26) "I'd prefer not to fight. If I can, I'd rather run away."
- 27) "You can find me in a variety of habitats around the world, from deserts to jungles and forests."
- 28) "My home is in the open fields."
- 29) "I don't have any hairs on my body."

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

- 30) Tarantulas can be found in various habitats around the world, such as deserts, jungles, and forests.
- 31) It's amazing how tarantulas can live in so many different habitats around the world.
- 32) Tarantulas bodies have tiny hairs to sense vibrations in the air or on the ground.
- 33) It's pretty cool that tarantulas are so big and hairy!
- 34) The body of a tarantula can reach up to almost 5 inches.
- 35) It's amazing how tarantulas live for such a long time even when they are so big.
- 36) Some Tarantulas, especially females, have a life span of up to 25 years.
- 37) Tarantulas have an exoskeleton, a hard outer body which they molt as they grow.
- 38) Tarantulas have the most interesting way of eating.
- 39) Tarantulas are not scary, they are just misunderstood.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 40) Tarantulas do not make webs to catch food.
- 41) Tarantulas have a soft outer body.
- 42) Tarantulas have a hard outer body called an exoskeleton.
- 43) Rainforest tarantulas only eat fruits and vegetables.
- 44) Tarantulas paralyze their prey with venom before they eat.
- 45) Tarantulas makes their home in trees.
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- 47) Tarantulas are extremely aggressive and prefer to fight.
- 48) Some tarantulas can live up to 25 years.
- 49) Tarantulas have tiny hairs all over their body.



Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

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

- 55) I can't believe tarantulas can eat birds!
- 56) Don't touch a tarantula without proper supervision!
- 57) How long can tarantulas live?
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- 59) Tarantulas live in deserts, rainforests, and mountains.
- 60) Are tarantulas venomous?
- 61) Some tarantula species can live up to 25 years or more.
- 62) Where can tarantulas be found?
- 63) Tarantulas mainly eat insects and small animals.
- 64) Be careful, tarantulas have venomous bites.
- 65) Wow, tarantulas can have a leg span of up to 11 inches!
- 66) Remember to never disturb a tarantula's burrow.



Tarantulas

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. _____

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13. _____ 38. _____ 63. _____

14. _____ 39. _____ 64. _____

15. _____ 40. _____ 65. _____

16. _____ 41. _____ 66. _____

17. _____ 42. _____

18. _____ 43. _____

19. _____ 44. _____

20. _____ 45. _____

21. _____ 46. _____

22. _____ 47. _____

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24. _____ 49. _____

25. _____ 50. _____



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1.	B	26.	Would	51.	A
2.	C	27.	Would	52.	D
3.	D	28.	Not	53.	A
4.	A	29.	Not	54.	C
5.	D	30.	fact	55.	exclamatory
6.	B	31.	opinion	56.	imperative
7.	B	32.	fact	57.	interrogative
8.	D	33.	opinion	58.	exclamatory
9.	A	34.	fact	59.	declarative
10.	C	35.	opinion	60.	interrogative
11.	Not	36.	fact	61.	declarative
12.	Would	37.	fact	62.	interrogative
13.	Would	38.	opinion	63.	declarative
14.	Would	39.	opinion	64.	imperative
15.	Would	40.	true	65.	exclamatory
16.	Not	41.	false	66.	imperative
17.	Not	42.	true		
18.	Would	43.	false		
19.	Not	44.	true		
20.	Not	45.	false		
21.	Would	46.	false		
22.	Not	47.	false		
23.	Would	48.	true		
24.	Would	49.	true		
25.	Not	50.	B		

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