

Invertebrate Scavenger Hunt Activity

Materials:

- Invertebrate questions worksheet (pages 2-3)
- 18 invertebrate fact cards (pages 4-8)
- scissors and scotch tape

Preparation

Print the fact cards and cut them apart.

Make copies of the invertebrate questions worksheet (2-sided). Each student will need his or her own copy.

Hide the 18 invertebrate fact cards around your classroom where students will be able to find them. You can put them on the back of your classroom door, on chairs, on the computer keyboard, on the sides of student desks, or wherever you like.

Activity

Students receive copies of the question worksheet. They have to search the classroom to find the fact cards to answer the questions.

After they have completed the question sheet, you can go over the answers together with the class.

Management tips

You may want to make this a silent activity so students don't share answers with each other. You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.

Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.

Examples of good hiding spots might include:

- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
- the back of the classroom door
- lying flat on the bookshelf
- on the back of the teacher's chair
- on the side of your computer monitor

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.



Invertebrate Scavenger Hunt

- Fact Card 1:** Invertebrates are animals without a...

- Fact Card 2:** List three examples of decapods.

- Fact Card 3:** Do earthworms have eyes?

- Fact Card 4:** Earthworms do not have lungs. What body part do they use to breathe?

- Fact Card 5:** Because jellyfish are not really fish, many scientists refer to them as...

- Fact Card 6:** How many body sections does an arachnid have?

- Fact Card 7:** How many species of insects exist on Earth?

- Fact Card 8:** List four examples of social insects.

- Fact Card 9:** Name an invertebrate species that can live for over 100 years.

Invertebrate Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 10: What does the term cold-blooded mean?

Fact Card 11: What is the largest and heaviest invertebrate species?

Fact Card 12: Which invertebrate species can grow up to 44 meters (177 feet) long?

Fact Card 13: What are the smallest invertebrates?

Fact Card 14: List two examples of myriapods.

Fact Card 15: Are centipedes carnivores or herbivores?

Fact Card 16: List four examples of mollusks.

Fact Card 17: Hard objects formed in the soft tissue of mollusks are...

Fact Card 18: What invertebrate is so smart that it sometimes uses tools to hunt?



Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

1



Vertebrates are animals with a backbone. Invertebrates are animals without a backbone.

Crabs, lobsters, snails, squid, jellyfish, spiders, insects, and worms are all invertebrates.

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

2



Lobsters, crabs, and shrimp are decapods. This means they belong to an order of animals that have 10 legs. Their front two legs are claws.

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

3



Earthworms do not have eyes. However, they do have special cells that allow them to sense light.

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

4



Earthworms do not have lungs. They breathe through their skin.



Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

5



Because fish are vertebrates, jellyfish are not really fish. Many scientists refer to them as sea jellies.

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

6



Spiders are not insects. They are arachnids. Insects have six legs and three body sections. Arachnids have eight legs and two body sections.

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

7



There are six to ten million species of insects on Earth.

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

8



Ants, bees, wasps, and termites are all social insects. This means they live in large colonies that work together to survive.

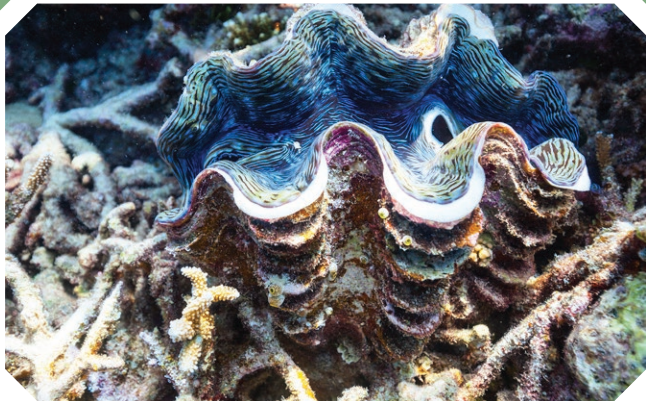


Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

9



Some invertebrates can live longer than humans. The giant clam can live more than 100 years.

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

10



Invertebrates are cold-blooded animals. This does not mean their blood is always cold. It means that the temperature of their blood changes with their environment.

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

11



The largest and heaviest invertebrate is the colossal squid. It can grow to 14 meters (46 feet) long. Scientists believe they can weigh up to 750 kilograms (1,650 pounds).

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

12

The longest invertebrate is believed to be the ribbon worm. It can grow to 54 meters (177 feet) long.

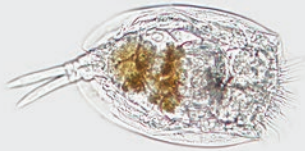


Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

13



The smallest known invertebrates are rotifers. They are less than a millimeter long. They are nearly impossible to see without a microscope.

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

14



Myriapods are a group of vertebrates with many legs. This group includes centipedes and millipedes. Some myriapods have over 750 legs.

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

15



Centipedes are carnivores. They eat insects and worms. Millipedes are herbivores. They eat plants and rotting material.

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

16



Mollusks are a group of invertebrates with soft bodies, such as slugs, squid, and octopuses. Some mollusks have hard shells, such as clams and snails.



Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

17



Pearls are hard objects formed in the soft tissue of shelled mollusks. Pearls are commonly found in oysters and clams.

Scavenger Hunt

Invertebrates

Fact Card

18



Octopuses are considered by many scientists to be the smartest invertebrates. Some have even learned to use tools to hunt for food.

Invertebrate Scavenger Hunt

- Fact Card 1:** Invertebrates are animals without a...
backbone
- Fact Card 2:** List three examples of decapods.
lobsters, crabs, and shrimp
- Fact Card 3:** Do earthworms have eyes?
no
- Fact Card 4:** Earthworms do not have lungs. What body part do they use to breathe?
their skin
- Fact Card 5:** Because jellyfish are not really fish, many scientists refer to them as...
sea jellies
- Fact Card 6:** How many body sections does an arachnid have?
two
- Fact Card 7:** How many species of insects exist on Earth?
six to ten million
- Fact Card 8:** List four examples of social insects.
ants, bees, wasps, and termites
- Fact Card 9:** Name an invertebrate species that can live for over 100 years.
the giant clam

Invertebrate Scavenger Hunt

- Fact Card 10:** What does the term cold-blooded mean?
the temperature of their blood changes with their environment
- Fact Card 11:** What is the largest and heaviest invertebrate species?
colossal squid
- Fact Card 12:** Which invertebrate species can grow up to 44 meters (177 feet) long?
the ribbon worm
- Fact Card 13:** What are the smallest invertebrates?
rotifers
- Fact Card 14:** List two examples of myriapods.
centipedes and millipedes
- Fact Card 15:** Are centipedes carnivores or herbivores?
carnivores
- Fact Card 16:** List four examples of mollusks.
slugs, squid, octopuses, clams, and snails
- Fact Card 17:** Hard objects formed in the soft tissue of mollusks are...
pearls
- Fact Card 18:** What invertebrate is so smart that it sometimes uses tools to hunt?
the octopus