



What Makes an Insect an Insect?

How are a bee, an ant, and a fly the same? For one thing, they are all insects. They all have six legs and three main body parts, called the head, the thorax, and the abdomen.

An insect's head has eyes and a mouth, and many have antennae, too. Insects use their antennae to feel, taste, and smell things.

The middle part of an insect's body is called the thorax. If an insect has wings, this is where they are located.

The hind part of an insect's body is the abdomen. It is usually the largest part of an insect's body. People have abdomens too, but some people might call their abdomen a belly.

Insects have skeletons, too. But their skeletons are on the outside of their bodies, and they are called exoskeletons. The skeletons are very hard, so they protect the soft inside part of the insect's body.

So the next time you see a bug, look at it closely. Is it an insect or not? How can you tell?



Asking Questions: Oral Assessment

Directions: Read the following instructions to the student.

Record the student's responses below each question/statement.

A. What did you wonder about while you (or I) read this text?

B. What questions do you have now about what you (or I) read?

C. Choose one of the questions below to ask the student:

- We have just talked about the questions you asked during reading. (Restate student's response.) How do questions help you understand more of what you're reading?
- What do you do when you are reading and a question comes into your mind? Do questions help you understand some kinds of text better than others? Tell me more about that.



Asking Questions: Rubric

Directions:

Use this rubric to record the student's scores on each set of questions. Circle the number corresponding to the statement that best reflects the student's response. Consider all three questions when scoring the student.

1	No questions and/or poses irrelevant questions.
2	Poses literal question(s) that relate to the text.
3	Poses questions to clarify meaning.
4	Poses questions to enhance meaning of text (critical response, big idea); may explain how posing questions deepens comprehension.
5	Uses questions to challenge the validity of text or author's stance/motive or point of view and to enhance his/her understanding of the text; questions may be rhetorical and lead to interesting discussion. Can explain how asking questions enhances understanding.

Observation Notes:
