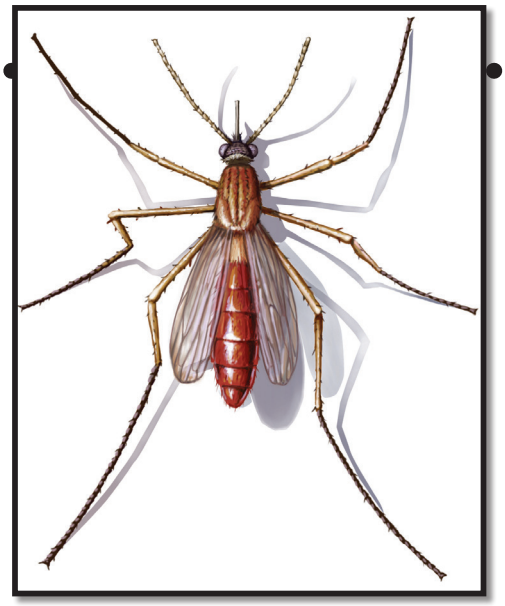
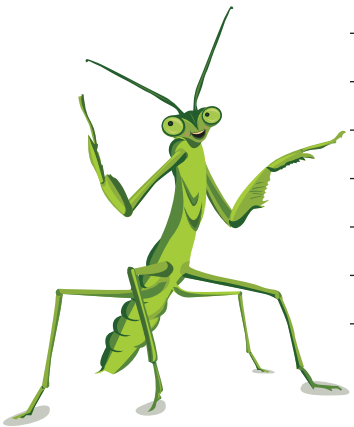
Name _____ W.3.2

Did you know?



Mosquitoes are related to flies. Mosquitoes need water to live. The mosquito's mouth has a tubelike part called a *proboscis*. When it bites, it punches a hole with its proboscis to drink its meal. A mosquito uses smell, temperature, and movement to locate its victims. It can also detect the *carbon dioxide* that animals and people breathe out. Both females and males drink nectar and other plant sugars for food. Only females bite people and animals in order to get blood. Female mosquitoes need blood to make their eggs. Most lay their eggs in water or other damp places. The eggs then hatch after two or three days. Males live seven to ten days, and females can live 30 days or more.

Imagine that you have been asked to explain to a space alien what a mosquito is. Write several paragraphs explaining what you know about mosquitoes. Describe an experience that you have had with mosquitoes. If necessary, continue on the back of your paper.



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