

ACTIVITY

Arthropod Jeopardy

How much do you know about arthropods? Test your knowledge of these little critters by creating a trivia game in the style of Jeopardy. Use your research on arthropods and focus on the questions below. After you and your team have completed the activity, respond to these questions in your journal.

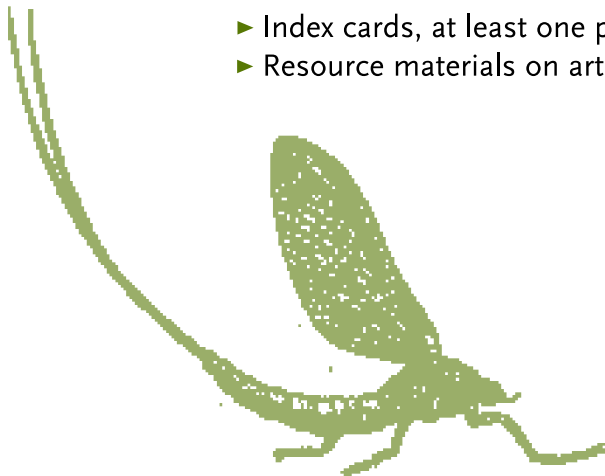
- ▶ What are the common characteristics of arthropods?
- ▶ How are arthropods different from each other?
- ▶ What roles do arthropods play in ecosystems? What kinds of interactions do they have with humans?

Gather with your team and choose a captain and a note taker for today. The captain will appoint group members to collect the required materials while the rest of the group reviews today's procedure. Before beginning, the captain will make sure that the group has all required materials, and that everyone knows the day's procedure.

The note taker will take notes on the group's findings for your team. Remember to record your observations and explanations in your journal for your own research notes. Include drawings to illustrate your findings.

MATERIALS

- ▶ Article "What is an Arthropod?"
- ▶ Index cards, at least one per group member
- ▶ Resource materials on arthropods, including field guides, textbooks, etc.



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PROCEDURE

1. Before beginning to develop your game questions, consider what you already know about arthropods. What is an arthropod? What qualities do all arthropods share? How are they different?
2. If you haven't yet done so, read "Arthropods at a Glance" (together or silently) and any other resource materials provided by your teacher or found in the library, on-line, etc. Record your discussion on the worksheet.
3. Using your research notes, each team member creates at least one Jeopardy-style question, e.g., "This arthropod may not be welcome at a picnic, but it does help to clean up the world by eating dead insects.... What is an ant?" Use the worksheet to record your questions—be sure to create questions in every category. Then use the index cards to record your questions for the game itself—put the question on one side, the answer on the other.
4. For the game itself, your teacher may help to moderate, but each team will be responsible for posing its own questions. This way, no team will be able to answer its own questions. In this game, all questions are worth an equal amount; but each team should designate one of its questions as a daily double.
5. Before starting the game, someone in your class draws a chart on the board with as many squares as there are students in your class (or for the total number of questions prepared by all teams, as your class decides). Write 100 points on each square. The Daily Doubles will, of course, be a surprise! Your chart will have three categories—"What is an Arthropod?", "What Do Arthropods Do and Where Do They Do It?" and "Who's Who in the Phylum Arthropoda?"—as explained on your worksheet. Remember, you are not only offering questions; you are also competing. So be sure you know your facts in all the categories!
6. Designate each square for a team, or just go in order until all the questions are used up. Each team has an equal number of questions, though—otherwise you will have unequal opportunities to offer answers and thus to get points!
7. The teacher or a student moderator keeps track of the points on the side. Each time a team answers correctly, that team is allowed to pick the next category. Decide in advance if you want to discuss answers as a team or have individual team members responsible for their own answers.
8. Take notes! Your teacher may use your Jeopardy questions for a quiz!



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GROUP WORKSHEET 1
TEAM _____

GROUP MEMBERS _____

CAPTAIN _____ NOTE TAKER _____

1. After you conduct your research on arthropods, use the chart below to record some of your discoveries.

CHARACTERISTICS OF ARTHROPODS	
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ARTHROPODS	
ROLES OF ARTHROPODS IN ECOSYSTEMS	
EXAMPLES OF ARTHROPODS	

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GROUP WORKSHEET 2
TEAM _____

2. Use these discoveries to create Jeopardy-style questions. Write your questions in the charts. Include the name of the team member who wrote each question. Make sure you have questions in each category.

WHAT IS AN ARTHROPOD? What physical characteristics do all arthropods share? In what ways can they differ physically and still be an arthropod?		
ANSWER	QUESTION	TEAM MEMBER RESPONSIBLE

WHAT DO ARTHROPODS DO AND WHERE DO THEY DO IT? What roles do arthropods fill in ecosystems? What do arthropods eat? Who eats them? In what habitats do they live?		
ANSWER	QUESTION	TEAM MEMBER RESPONSIBLE

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GROUP WORKSHEET 3
TEAM _____

WHO'S WHO IN THE PHYLUM ARTHROPODA?

What are the common and scientific names of some arthropods?

ANSWER	QUESTION	TEAM MEMBER RESPONSIBLE

GROUP DYNAMICS

Comment on how each group member participated in today's discussion.