

Parent Guide

How can I use this with my children?

Cut out the cards and place them in a pile. Take it in turns to read three statements about an invertebrate to the rest of the players. Can they work out which statement is fictional?

How does this help my children's learning?

This game makes learning facts about invertebrates fun and collaborative. Your child will practise reading, taking turns and working as a team, as well as understanding more about animals.

Ideas for further learning:

Could your child create their own cards for this game? They could research an invertebrate, draw a picture and write down two facts and one fictional statement. Use the blank cards in this resource.



Invertebrates Fact or Fiction Card Game

Invertebrates are animals with no backbone. Some invertebrates have an exoskeleton, which is a protective covering around the outside of their body. Invertebrates can be split up into five main categories:

- **Protozoans:** are single-celled organisms.
- **Annelids:** are often referred to as ringed worms or segmented worms. Some examples of annelids are earthworms and leeches.
- **Echinoderms:** are marine invertebrates that have five-sided symmetry. They include sea urchins, sea cucumbers and starfish.
- **Molluscs:** are invertebrates with soft bodies, many of which have shells. Some examples are the octopus, oyster, snail and slug.
- **Arthropods:** are invertebrates with exoskeletons that have segmented body parts. There are four main groups of arthropod:
 - **Insects:** have bodies split into three parts and have six legs. They also often have two pairs of wings and antennae. Some examples are bees, ants and butterflies.
 - **Arachnids:** have eight legs. They have no antennae or wings. Some examples are spiders, scorpions, ticks and mites.
 - **Myriapods:** have many pairs of legs and two body sections (a head and trunk). Some examples are millipedes and centipedes.
 - **Crustaceans:** have jointed limbs (legs with two parts) and two pairs of antennae. Some examples are crabs, lobsters, prawns, woodlice and barnacles.

Can you identify the fictional statement in this Fish Fact or Fiction Card Game?

You will need:

- Invertebrate Cards
- scissors
- scrap paper and a pencil (to record the scores)
- at least 2 players



Instructions:

1. Print out the Invertebrate Cards and cut them out with scissors. If you want to make them more durable, you could print them onto card and/or laminate them.
2. Place the pile of cards face down.
3. Jot down everyone's name on a piece of scrap paper ready to record the scores.
4. The first player picks up a card. This player should tell everyone the invertebrate's name and read out the three statements about the invertebrate. Make sure they don't show anyone the card.
5. Everyone else needs to decide which of the three statements is fictional. Let everyone guess.
6. The first player then reveals the fictional statement (it has a red cross next to it on the card). If anybody guesses correctly, they get a point. Jot it down next to their name.
7. The second player can then read out the next card and everyone guesses again.
8. Keep going until you've used all the cards.
9. Who got the most points? They can be crowned the Fact or Fiction winner!

Extra Idea:

Try creating your own Fact or Fiction cards using the blank ones at the end of this resource. Research an invertebrate, draw a picture and write down two facts and one fictional statement. You can include your homemade cards in the game next time!

Name: Earthworm



- ✓ Earthworms are covered in tiny hairs that help them grip the soil and move.
- ✓ Earthworms eat soil as they burrow, getting nutrients from decomposing organic materials.
- ✗ Earthworms like the sunshine and can be found in deserts.

Name: European flat oyster



- ✓ Oyster reefs provide a natural barrier to storm waves.
- ✗ These oysters only live in deep waters.
- ✓ Oysters filter water, trapping plankton and other particles in their gill mucus.

Name: Peacock spider



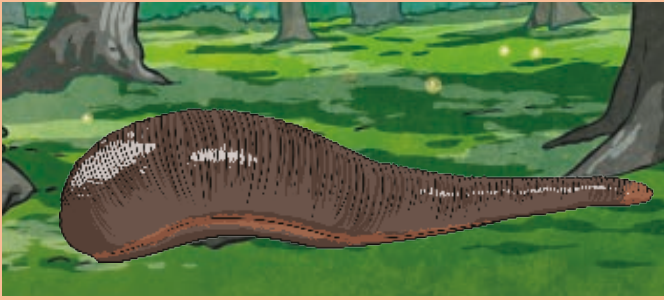
- ✓ Male peacock spiders do a dance by waving their tails and legs to impress females.
- ✗ Peacock spiders are the size of a golf ball.
- ✓ They can jump really far - about 20 times their body length.

Name: Cleaner shrimp



- ✗ Cleaner shrimps travel in large groups.
- ✓ Cleaner shrimps perform a rocking dance to let fish know they are ready to start cleaning.
- ✓ Cleaner shrimps feed on dead skin and parasites from bodies of other fish.

Name: Leech



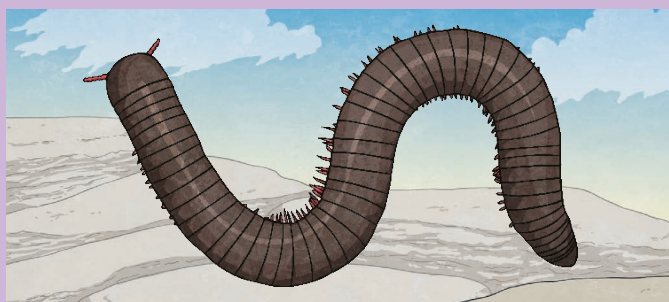
- ✓ Leeches live on every continent, apart from Antarctica.
- ✓ Once leeches are done with feeding from an animal, they fall off the animal.
- ✗ All leeches feed on blood of other animals.

Name: Giant African snail



- ✓ Their muscular 'foot' helps them move by releasing mucus.
- ✗ Giant African snails lay about 20 eggs at a time.
- ✓ These snails hide inside their shells from predators or when it gets too cold.

Name: Millipede



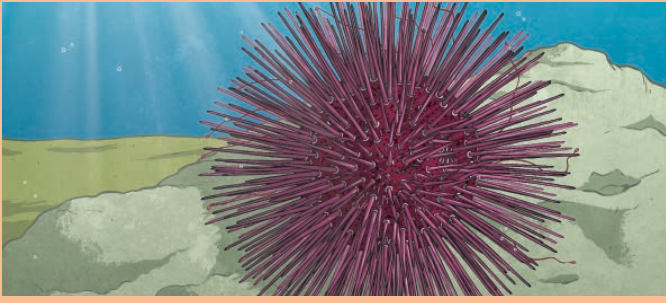
- ✓ Most millipedes feed on decomposing plant and animal parts (they are detritivores).
- ✗ Millipedes have 1000 legs.
- ✓ They curl up into a tight coil and might release a horrible smell if a predator comes close.

Name: Moon jellyfish



- ✗ Jellyfish are 50% water.
- ✓ Moon jellyfish have no brain, blood or heart.
- ✓ They catch their plankton prey using a layer of mucus over their bell.

Name: Sea urchin



✓ A sea urchin has no brain.

✓ Some sea urchins are poisonous.

✗ A sea urchin has no mouth.

Name: Yellow slug



✓ Yellow slugs feed on fungi, decaying matter and vegetables.

✗ Yellow slugs can grow up to 30cm long.

✓ Yellow slugs use one pair of tentacles on their head to sense light and another pair to sense smells.

Name: European lobster



✓ European lobsters have one claw bigger than the other.

✗ Their exoskeletons are red.

✓ European lobster hatchlings can dig burrows in the mud.

Name: Japanese spider crab



✗ Japanese spider crabs usually only live to be 10 years old.

✓ Spider crabs look for food on the seabed.

✓ Spider crabs put seaweed, bits of wood or even small animals on their shell for camouflage.

Name: Three-rowed sea cucumber



- ✓ A clownfish lives among the tentacles of the anemone. These sting, but a clownfish isn't bothered by it.
- ✓ Clownfish are carnivores. They eat leftovers from the anemone's meals and any parasites that annoy the anemone.
- ✗ Male clownfish are larger than female clownfish.

Name: Bumblebee



- ✓ Queen bees hibernate in the winter and then find a nesting site in the spring to lay eggs.
- ✗ Male bumblebees are aggressive and can sting predators.
- ✓ Bumblebees are covered in hairs so pollen sticks to them.

Name: Barnacle



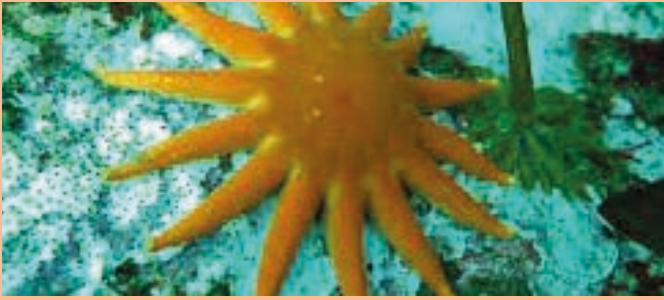
- ✓ Barnacles attach to lots of surfaces, like rocks, driftwood, seaweed or even the bodies of larger sea creatures.
- ✗ Barnacles have no senses.
- ✓ They have feathery organs to filter tiny particles of food and move them towards their mouth.

Name: Woodlouse



- ✗ A woodlouse has 16 legs.
- ✓ Woodlice like damp, dark places.
- ✓ Some woodlice produce chemicals to discourage predators.

Name: Morning sun starfish



- ✓ Morning sun starfish can grow up to 40cm in width.
- ✓ Morning sun starfish can move quickly along the sea floor.
- ✗ This starfish feeds on marine plant life.

Name: Black garden ant



- ✓ Ants are social; they live in colonies.
- ✗ Worker ants are all wingless male ants.
- ✓ When an ant finds food, it lays a scent trail for the other ants to follow.

Name: Desert scorpion



- ✓ Scorpions sting their prey or sting predators to defend themselves.
- ✗ Female scorpions lay eggs then leave them to hatch.
- ✓ Scorpions can slow down their metabolism so they don't need as much food to survive in harsh conditions.

Name: Southern hawker dragonfly



- ✗ Southern hawker dragonflies can only fly forwards.
- ✓ They can catch their prey in mid-air.
- ✓ Southern hawker dragonflies like to be near ponds, lakes or canals.

Name: Umbrella octopus



- ✓ These octopuses live in the deep sea where there is no sunlight.
- ✓ They move by flapping their ear fins.
- ✗ Umbrella octopuses squirt dark ink to help them escape attackers.

Name: Red admiral butterfly



- ✓ These butterflies like to feast on nectar and rotting fruit.
- ✗ Eggs are laid in clusters of hundreds on leaves.
- ✓ When they are in the caterpillar stage of their life cycle, they eat nettles.

Name: Common centipede



- ✓ Centipedes can crawl backwards and forwards.
- ✗ Centipedes are herbivores.
- ✓ They tend to have an odd number of pairs of legs.

Name: Ladybird



- ✗ Ladybirds can be spotted in winter, especially in the snow.
- ✓ Ladybirds sometimes remain still and pretend to be dead when threatened by predators.
- ✓ Ladybirds lay eggs on the underside of leaves.

Name:

Name:

Name:

Name:

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