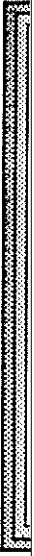


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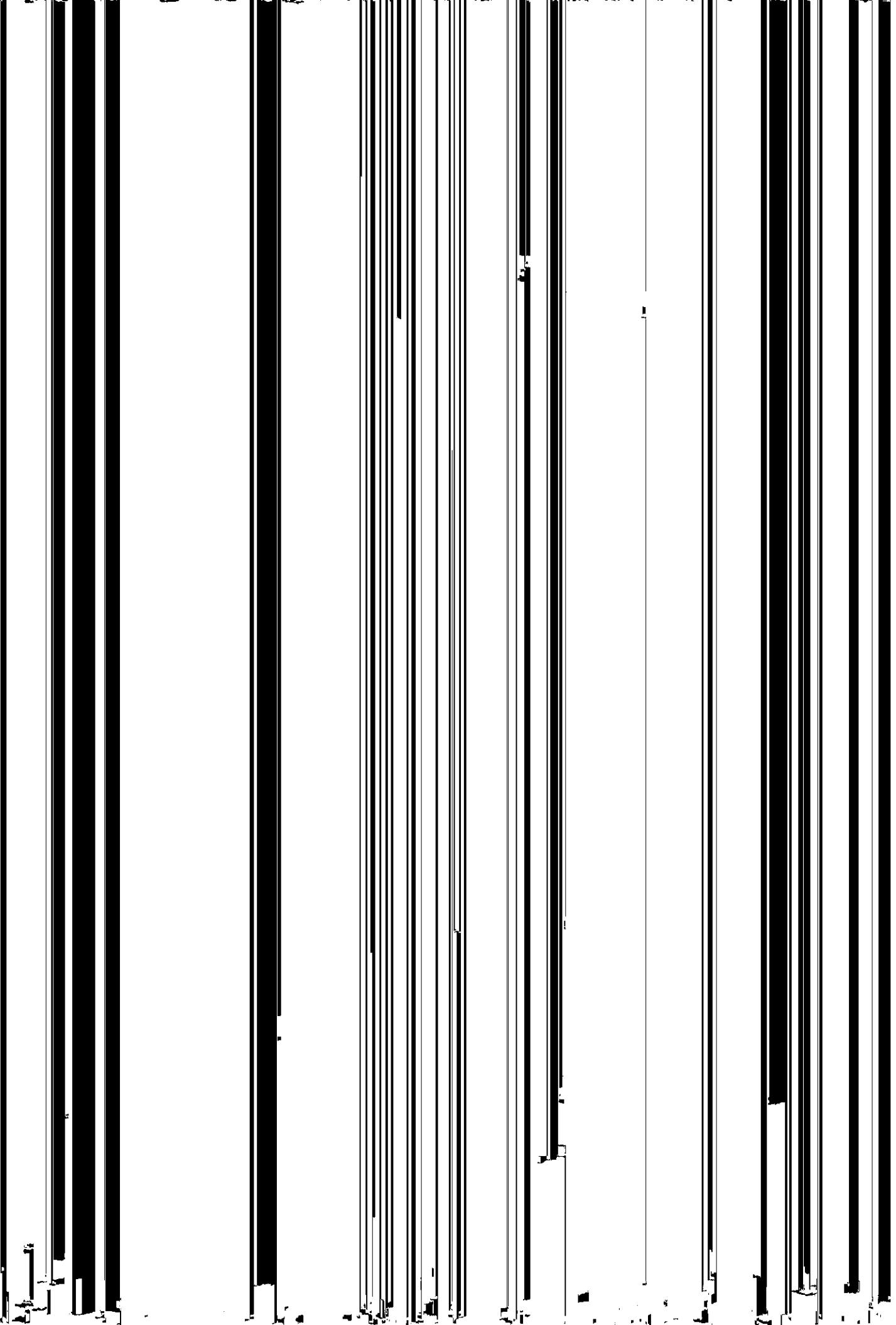
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Taxonomy is the science of naming organisms. Taxonomists give names to organisms. These names are generally Latin or Greek. A name for a particular species, called a binomial name, consists of two parts. The first part is the genus name and the second part is the species name. Therefore, the process of taxonomy is to name organisms and assure that each name is unique. Taxonomists also categorize organisms and assure that the names reflect their specific relationships:

The

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Common names are often used instead of scientific names. Common names are often not unique. For example, the word "cat" can refer to many different species of cats. Scientific names are always unique. Each species has only one scientific name. Common names are often in English, but scientific names are always in Latin because Carl Linnaeus, the father of taxonomy, knew Latin. It must be noted that a scientific name tells you something about the organism. For example, the scientific name *Homo sapiens* tells you something about the organism. In this booklet, the scientific names of organisms are given in italics.

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Did you know?

- *the first insects appeared 400 million years ago
- *fossils of butterflies date back to the Cretaceous period
- *there are nearly 200,000 species of insects
- *that butterflies taste with their feet
- *cockroaches live for about 1 year
- *the world's longest insect is the Hercules moth
- *a flea can jump 200 times its body length
- *the sound of one cricket chirping is 100 decibels
- *a fly moves its wings 200 times per second
- *the largest order of insects is the Coleoptera
- *the Hercules moth has a wingspan of 27 centimeters
- *goliath beetles are the largest beetles in the world
- *bees have to make 8 trips to a flower to collect enough nectar for one drop of honey
- *leaf cutter ants travel in columns
- back?
- *in Africa and South America, a column can be as tall as 100 meters
- *approximately 1,000 species of ants exist
- *the life cycle of a butterfly is 2-4 weeks
- *scientists estimate that there are 10 million species of insects
- *dragonflies have 6 eyes
- *katydid's ears are on its abdomen

Spiders are commonly found in the class, Arachnida.

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Where does it live?
in fields and grassy areas

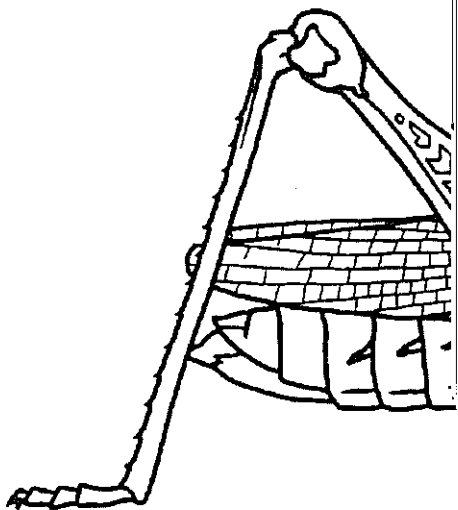
What does it eat?
any type of plant (herbivor

What adaptations doe survive?

Grasshoppers have long s
unable to fly very far. A gr
into its surroundings (cam

**Here are a few facts y
grasshoppers...**

Adult grasshoppers only li
eggs in masses of 20-130 i
the spring.



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Praying Mantis

Stagmomantis californica

Where does it live?

on vegetation in warm, wooded areas or prairies

What does it eat?

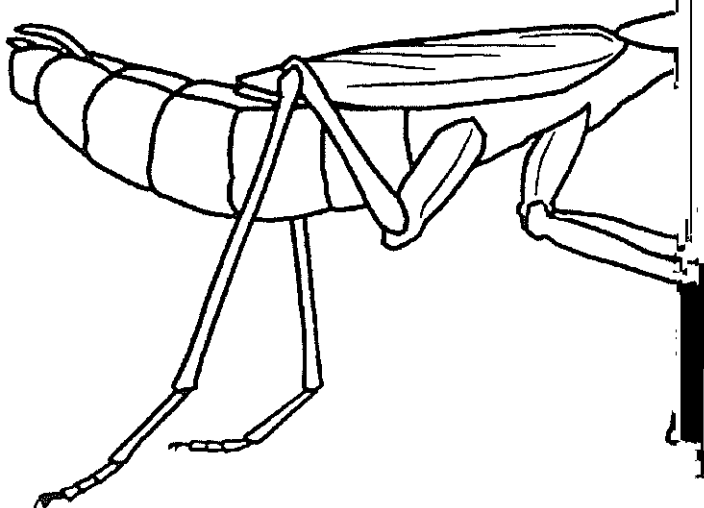
The praying mantis is carnivorous, eating a variety of insects including other mantises.

What adaptations does the praying mantis have to help it survive?

Praying mantises have spikes that cover their bodies to help capture and eat prey. The mantis' green color is camouflage and helps it blend into the environment.

Here are a few facts you may not know about praying mantises...

It is the only insect that can turn its head and look over its shoulder for predators. Did you know that praying mantises will allow humans to stroke their abdomens?



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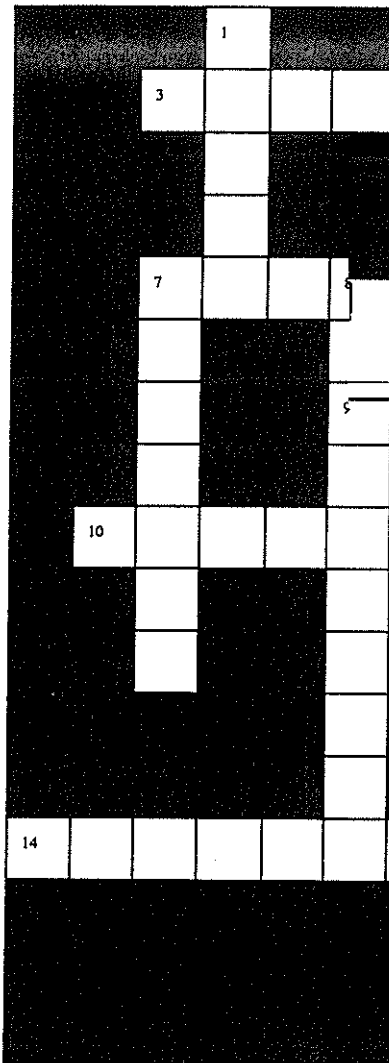
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13. ___
grassh

14. ___

15. ___
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3. The body part that is b
5. A person that studies h
7. Changes in the shape
9. An insect's "feelers".
10. The place where an ins
12. Some insects fertilize c
14. When an insect is in ar
15. This group of animals h

DOWN

1. An insect has _____ pa
2. When an insect has a c
4. External skeleton.
6. A group of related inse
7. To travel from one plac
8. A special shape or bod
11. An insect's legs are _____
13. The young form of an ir

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