# Look Out for the Cicadas!



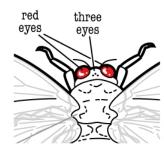
Depending on how you feel about bugs, the arrival of **BILLIONS** of cicadas might thrill you...or not. **Look out for the cicadas!** They will be arriving soon. It will be a bug fantage.



Billions of bugs are coming, but don't worry. Cicadas are harmless. They don't sting or bite. They don't gobble up crops.

However, they do make a **huge** noise. Male cicadas, when searching for a mate, create an enormous **BUZZ** that sounds like a lawn mower. The sound can reach a level of 90 to 100 decibels. Now that is certainly a way to get attention.

The cicada's noise has also gotten the attention of scientists. The Navy's Undersea Warfare Center is studying male cicadas to figure out how they can make so much racket with hardly any effort. It might help the Navy with remote sensing underwater. It might also assist with systems for ship-to-ship communications.



The group of cicadas that is coming are called **BROOD** X. They will appear in the eastern U.S. states of Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and also Washington, D.C. You will be able to find them easily because, well, they will be **everywhere!** They have black backs, orange bellies, four transparent wings, and two *stunning* red round eyes popping out on each side of their heads. They also have three extra eyes on top of their heads. It might be hard to find eyeglasses for a cicada.

Why are they called **BROOD** X? It has to do with how these insects are categorized. Scientists have put over 3,000 cicada species into annual and periodical groups. Annual cicadas come out over the summer months and spend about two years underground. They have green markings and dark



bodies. The periodical cicadas come out earlier in the year, and the group is called a brood. **BROOD X** will be arriving this year. Periodic cicadas spend an **incredible** 13 or 17 years underground.



You might be wondering a little bit about the cicada's life cycle since they are underground so much. Females lay between 200 to 400 eggs in small holes in shrub and tree branches. The baby cicadas are called nymphs and hatch after six to ten weeks. Then they fall to the ground, dig in, and attach themselves to tree roots. Then they play Rip van Cicada. **BROOD X** cicadas sleep for 17 years!

What on earth (or under the earth) do these bugs do then? Cicadas snack on tree sap while they nap. When the ground eight inches below the surface reaches a *magic* 64 degrees, they come out. Only about five weeks of a cicada's life is above ground.

# Look Out for the Cicadas!





For about five weeks, you will see cicadas **everyplace**. Some people think of cicadas as a *gourmet* food. They fry them or pickle them! Native Americans have enjoyed them. People say that cicadas taste like peanut butter or shrimp. A creative chef even put together a cookbook of cicada recipes.

Whether the arrival of billions of bugs thrills you or makes you want to hide, no one can avoid the cicada fanfare coming soon. So, look out for the cicadas! Then sit back and enjoy the sights and sounds of these unique bugs.



## **QUESTIONS:**

#### 1. True or false:

Billions of cicadas will be coming soon.

- A) True
- B) False
- 2.

The cicadas will show up in California and the west coast.

- A) True
- B) False
- 3.

Which group of cicadas will come out soon?

- A) BROOD X
- B) **BROOD Y**
- C) BROOD Z
- D) None of the above
- 4.

Why would the cicadas' arrival be called a fanfare?

**BROOD** X is part of which kind of cicada?

- A) annual
- B) periodontal
- C) periodical
- D) allergic

6.

Which branch of the armed forces is studying the noisy cicada?

- A) Army
- B) Navy
- C) Marines
- D) Air Force

#### 7. True or false:

The cicada has a nasty bite.

- A) True
- B) False

8.

What did one chef do about cicadas?

- A) He packaged them and sold them.
- B) He wrote a cookbook with cicada recipes.
- C) He opened a restaurant dedicated to bugs.
- D) None of the above

Look Out for the	STORY STARTERS
Cicadas!	Would you like to study bugs like cicadas? Why or why not?
1	
2. What would you say if yo	ur friend offered you a deep-fried cicada? Would you eat it?
, , ,	



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Finding Words Multiple Times

Look for words to the RIGHT, to the LEFT, UP, or DOWN.

S H H X SBSHPMYNDG CEEAEWU HNEΗE BAARDI RCADDOANRTN Ε HEGOASE H S W H R SADAC IWEGN D EAOWI RRRB SAXSSOCBURROW

Answers for blanks: 2 3 1 3 2 2 5 2 2

I found BURROW time(s).
I found TYMBAL time(s).
I found SPECIES time(s).
I found HATCH time(s).
I found SING time(s).
I found CICADAS time(s).
I found HEAD time(s).
I found WINGS time(s).
I found NYMPHS time(s).
I found BROOD X time(s).



Emily thinks there will also be 17-year cicadas in 2059. Is she right?

How many total legs on 11 cicadas?

Maria and Rose collected 62 cicadas.

Maria collected 28 fewer cicadas than

Rose. How many cicadas did Maria collect?

Along with the 17-year cicadas, we also have 13-year cicadas. What property do 13 and 17 both have? Hint: They are both not composite numbers.

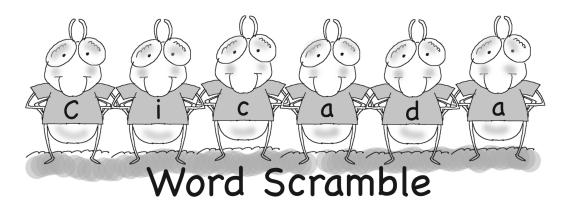
Jack thinks there will also be 17-year cicadas in 2072. Is he right?

The 17-year cicadas awoke in 2021. They will awake again in 17 years. When will that be?

How many total legs on 12 cicadas?

Anne thinks there will also be 17-year cicadas in 2120. Is she right?

Name: \_



Below are facts about cicadas. Unscramble the underlined letters in each sentence and write it at the end.

Cicadas
regularly shed their skin in a <u>erocpss</u> known as "molting."
In Australia they can be heard regularly in nSyyed.
Japan and China use them in niciedme.

Underground, the nymph cicadas feed on otor juice.

# Cicada True or False

Read each statement.

If you believe it to be true, circle T. If you believe it to be false, circle F.



Once an adult moves above ground, it lives for six months.

TF

You can often find the shells (discarded skins) of cicadas on indoor items.

T F

Adults are usually between one and two inches long.

TF

They don't bite or sting.

TF

Organs called "tymbals" are responsible for the sound male cicadas make.

TF

After up to seventeen years, the nymph cicadas tunnel up and exit above ground.

T F

# NCREDIBLE (Cicada!



? ? FACT or Myth ???

**FACT** Cicadas are a kind of locust.

Myth Cicadas are their own species.

Cicadas can harm you and FACT your pets.

Cicadas don't bite and are a

Myth good source of protein.

Only male cicadas "sing" and they FACT do their singing during the daytime.

Myth All cicadas "sing" at night.

Cicadas are dormant underground. **FACT** They hibernate.

Cicadas are active underground. Myth They tunnel and feed off roots.

Large numbers of cicadas can FACT

destroy crops and vegetation.

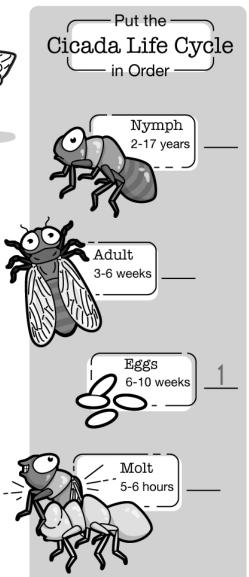
Myth Cicadas only feed on tree sap.

Cicadas only live for a few weeks **FACT** 

above ground.

Cicadas only live for a few hours Myth

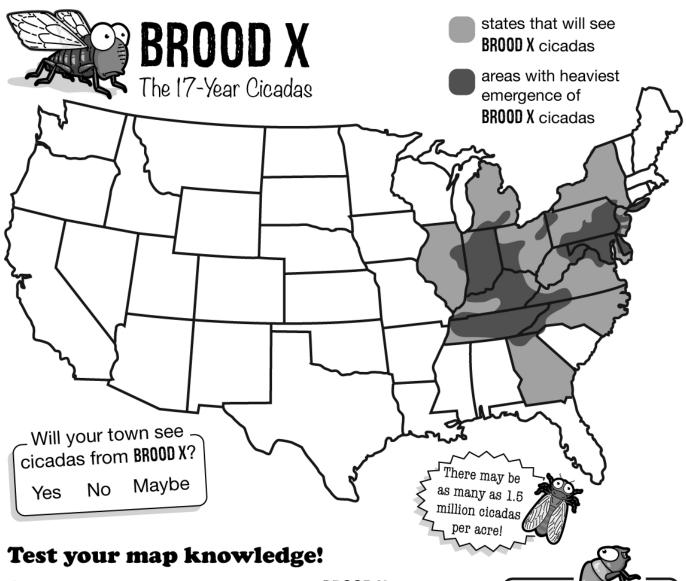
above ground.



Did you know that you can **EAT** cicadas?!

> Draw a tasty treat around the cicada below.



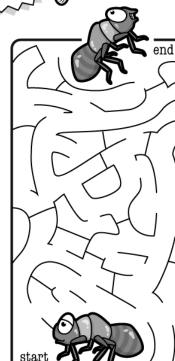


South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee

Washington West Virginia Wisconsin

### Circle the 15 states that will see BROOD X cicadas:

Indiana	Nebraska	South Car
Iowa	Nevada	South Dak
Kansas	New Hampshire	Tennessee
Kentucky	New Jersey	Texas
Louisiana	New Mexico	Utah
Maine	New York	Vermont
Maryland	North Carolina	Virginia
Massachusetts	North Dakota	Washingto
Michigan	Ohio	West Virgin
Minnesota	Oklahoma	Wisconsin
Mississippi	Oregon	Wyoming
Missouri	Pennsylvania	
Montana	Rhode Island	
	Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri	lowa Nevada Kansas New Hampshire Kentucky New Jersey Louisiana New Mexico Maine New York Maryland North Carolina Massachusetts North Dakota Michigan Ohio Minnesota Oklahoma Mississippi Oregon Missouri Pennsylvania



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

