

Entomology for Beginners

General Entomology ENT 100





How do Insects Breath?

➢Insects have no lungs.

The basic respiratory system is tracheas.



 Tracheas are tubes which end on both sides of the body as small breathing holes (spiracles).
Tracheas are reinforced with chitin rings to prevent from collapsing.





- Fine-branched parts of tracheae (tracheoles) penetrate the entire body, covering organs and even penetrating inside some cells.
- In insects, gas exchange takes place without a circulatory system.





Many insects living in water such as larvae and pupae of mosquitoes rise to the surface to take in air.



Water beetles take on an additional supply of air under their wing covers before they dive.



Some insects living in water, or tissues of plants, may breathe through the skin and gills.







Insect Defenses against enemies

The quick escape by running or flying is the primary mode of defense in many insects.



Some insects simply play dead by falling to the ground motionless.



Spines and hairs may be effective mechanical deterrents against enemies





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Some insects have a "fracture line" that allows a leg to break off easily if it is caught.



 Many insects are equipped with chemical weapons.
These chemicals may cause repellency, pain, adhesion or irritation to the enemies.





Many ants, bees, and wasps deliver venom to their enemies by means of a stinger.



Some colors and patterns of insects assist a defensive function by offering a degree of protection from enemies. These patterns are known as protective coloration



Protective coloration



Protective coloration





Protective coloration





We appreciated your presence during the study session, and we hope that we were able to benefit and interest you. We wish you all great success.

