

EAT OR BE EATEN

a food chain game

Jumping Spider



I pounce on insects that spend time on the ground. I eat crickets, ants, cockroaches, caterpillars, and even daddy long legs.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Fence Lizard

I eat ants, beetles, crickets, caterpillars, cockroaches, pill bugs, snails, and spiders.



I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Dead Leaves

I may not look tasty, but I'm just what some animals want for lunch.



I am eaten!

MYSTERYscience

Mouse

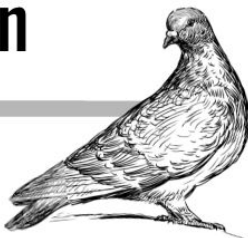


Cartoon mice eat cheese. Real mice like me eat human food—when we can find it. I'll also eat seeds and nuts (like acorns), or snack on vegetables like zucchini or tomatoes. And sometimes I eat crickets and beetles.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Pigeon



You can feed me popcorn, bread crumbs, and peanuts. But when no one gives me human food, I eat seeds and berries—plus snails, earthworms, and crickets.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Web-spinning Spider

I eat flying insects. House flies, butterflies, and even honeybees can get caught in my web. Dinner is served.



I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Crow



I eat almost anything: acorns, fruits, seeds, and human food. I like beetles, crickets, and cockroaches. I hunt for animals like frogs, moles, mice, and lizards. I'll even steal eggs from the nests of robins, sparrows, and pigeons.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

House Cat

Yes, I eat cat food. But I like to hunt, too. I prey on mice, gophers, squirrels, small birds—and even lizards.



I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Swallowtail Butterfly



I drink nectar from flowers—and I'm not picky about what flowers. I'm happy in a flower garden, vegetable garden, or a clover patch. Even a parsley plant is fine with me.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Sparrow



I eat seeds, grains, grass, and berries. I'll also eat bread crumbs if they're around. And sometimes I'll snack on ants.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Clover

I have leaves, flowers, and small seeds. They're a great snack if you like that sort of thing.



I am eaten!

MYSTERYscience

Opossum



I eat all kinds of things. I catch frogs, moles, snakes, mice, and salamanders. I snack on beetles, cockroaches, earthworms, crickets, and snails. I'm also happy to eat vegetables, seeds, even human food!

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Snail

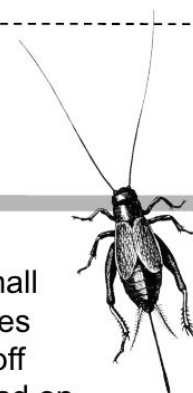


I eat soft green plant leaves—lettuce, parsley, flower leaves, clover, and even grass. Oak leaves are too tough for me, but if I'm hungry I'll nibble on dead leaves.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Cricket



I eat seeds, small fruits, and leaves—either fresh off the plant or dead on the ground. And I'm always hungry! Every day, I eat my own body weight in food.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Lunch Leftovers



I'm the lunch some kid didn't finish—half a peanut-butter sandwich and an apple with a bite out of it. That's OK—I'm the perfect treat for some hungry animal.

I am eaten!

MYSTERYscience

Robin

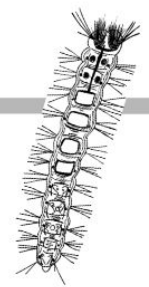


I hop around searching for worms, caterpillars, snails, beetles, crickets, ants, spiders, and even daddy long legs. I'll also eat fruits and berries off bushes and trees.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Caterpillar of a Moth

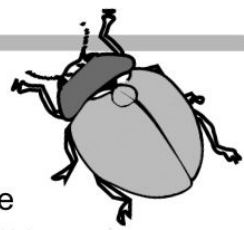


I chow down on rotting wood and dead leaves. That's why you can usually find me hiding under a rotting log.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Beetle



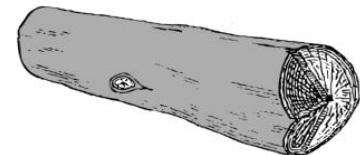
I eat caterpillars. In fact, some people call me the caterpillar hunter. I'll also eat earthworms and snails.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Rotting Log

I'm where hungry animals can find rotting wood, bark, and dead leaves. I'm tasty eating for the right critter!



I am eaten!

MYSTERYscience

Raccoon

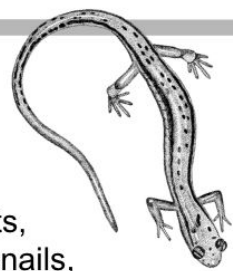


I sometimes raid trash cans for food you threw away. In the wild I eat nuts, fruit, beetles, worms, frogs, salamanders, mice, moles, and snakes.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Salamander



I eat nice crunchy beetles, ants, crickets, along with snails, spiders, ants, and pillbugs. Want to join me for lunch?

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Frog



I eat insects with my long sticky tongue—beetles, cockroaches, crickets, houseflies, butterflies, and even bees. I'll also snack on earthworms, snails, and pillbugs. Yum!

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Parsley Plant



I'm where animals can find leaves, flowers, and small seeds. In fact, I'm one of the *only* plants that swallowtail caterpillars eat! Bragging rights.

I am eaten!

MYSTERYscience

Hawk



I swoop down to grab small animals with my sharp claws. I eat gophers, mice, pigeons, robins, sparrows, even lizards and snakes!

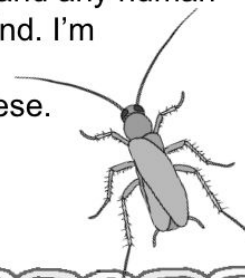
Daddy Longlegs



I eat insects of all kinds—along with worms, snails, and pill bugs. I'm not a spider, but I eat spiders when I catch them.

Cockroach

I eat many things, including bark, paper, leaves (living and dead), and any human food I can find. I'm particularly fond of cheese.



Oak Tree



Some animals are nuts about me. After all, I provide lots of acorns—along with leaves and bark.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

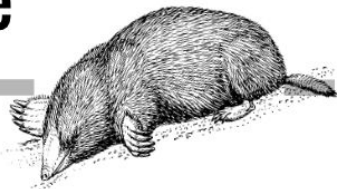
I eat...

MYSTERYscience

I am eaten!

MYSTERYscience

Mole



I chow down underground (and under logs). I'll eat beetles, earthworms, pill bugs, and crickets. I stay hidden in my tunnel, safe from hawks and housecats!

Ant



I'm happy to eat human food (like peanut butter), but when that's not around, I'll eat nectar from flowers, seeds from grasses, and any dead insects I find lying around.

Gopher



I tunnel underground and gnaw the roots of plants—any plants! Sometimes I leave my hole to snack on leaves—keeping an eye out for animals that want to snack on me!

Flower Garden

Come and get it! I have lots of flowers with sweet nectar, plus lots of leaves and seeds.



I eat...

MYSTERYscience

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

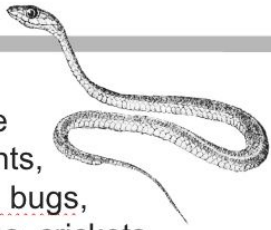
I eat...

MYSTERYscience

I am eaten!

MYSTERYscience

Garter Snake

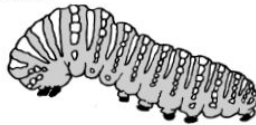


I hunt in the grass for ants, beetles, pill bugs, cockroaches, crickets, earthworms, and spiders. I also eat mice, frogs, salamanders, & lizards. Don't be scared of me...unless you're on my list of snacks.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Swallowtail Caterpillar



Like many caterpillars, I'm a picky eater. I only eat carrot leaves and parsley plants from vegetable gardens.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Gray Squirrel



I eat nuts, like acorns from the oak tree. But that's not all! I eat seeds, fruit, birds' eggs, even lunch leftovers! Peanut butter sandwich? Yes please!

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Grass



I have lots of leaves and lots of seeds. That's lunch for lots of critters.

I am eaten!

MYSTERYscience

Earthworm



I eat bits of plants—like dead leaves or rotting wood. Anywhere that leaves are falling, I can find something for lunch.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Honeybee



I eat pollen and nectar from flowers. I'm happy anywhere flowers bloom—a flower garden, a vegetable garden, a parsley plant, or a patch of clover.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Pill bug



I eat dead leaves, rotting wood, and the fungi that grow on them. Look for me under logs. Poke me, and I roll in a ball—that's why some people call me a roly poly.

I eat...

MYSTERYscience

Veggie Garden



If you're looking for lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, and zucchini squash, I'm the place. Stop by for some leaves and flowers too!

I am eaten!

MYSTERYscience