

Entomology in the Cosmos

Entomology · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which insect has been successfully sent to space and survived?

- A) Ants
- B) Bees
- C) Fruit flies**
- D) Butterflies

2. What unique characteristic of fruit flies makes them suitable for microgravity research?

- A) Their small size
- B) Their rapid reproduction cycle**
- C) Their ability to photosynthesize
- D) Their resistance to radiation

3. When were the first insects, fruit flies, sent into space?

- A) 1947**
- B) 1957
- C) 1969
- D) 1981

4. What was the primary goal of sending fruit flies to space in early experiments?

- A) To study their social behavior
- B) To observe the effects of radiation on their genes**
- C) To test their navigational abilities
- D) To see if they could build nests in orbit

5. Which astronomical body has been hypothesized to potentially harbor life, though not insect life, based on current understanding?

- A) The Moon
- B) Mars**
- C) The Sun
- D) Pluto

6. The concept of 'panspermia' suggests that life, potentially including microbial forms, could travel between celestial bodies. Which planet is often discussed in this context?

- A) Jupiter
- B) Venus
- C) Earth**
- D) Saturn

7. What is the closest star to our solar system?

- A) Sirius
- B) Alpha Centauri A
- C) Proxima Centauri**
- D) Betelgeuse

8. The study of exoplanets involves searching for planets outside our solar system. What is a key characteristic scientists look for when assessing a planet's potential habitability?

- A) Its color
- B) Its size relative to Jupiter
- C) Its distance from its star (habitable zone)**
- D) Its rotation speed

9. Which of these celestial phenomena is a massive explosion of a star?

- A) Nebula
- B) Black hole
- C) Supernova**
- D) Quasar

10. What is the name of our galaxy?

- A) Andromeda
- B) Milky Way**
- C) Triangulum
- D) Whirlpool

11. What causes the phases of the Moon?

- A) Earth's shadow
- B) The Moon's rotation
- C) The Sun's light reflecting off the Moon**
- D) Clouds in Earth's atmosphere

12. Which planet in our solar system is known for its prominent rings?

- A) Mars
- B) Jupiter
- C) Saturn**
- D) Uranus

13. What is the largest planet in our solar system?

- A) Earth
- B) Saturn
- C) Uranus

D) Jupiter

14. What is the term for a celestial body that orbits a star but is not massive enough to clear its orbital neighborhood?

- A) Planet
- B) Moon
- C) Asteroid

D) Dwarf planet

15. The study of the origin and evolution of the universe is called:

- A) Geology

B) Cosmology

- C) Biology
- D) Oceanography