

Yellow Mealworm Worksheet

1. Is the mealworm a worm, an insect, or a reptile? _____

Name _____

2. What are the four stages in the life cycle of the mealworm?
(Draw arrows showing the correct order for these stages)

Period _____

Date _____

3. The mealworm is the larva of what animal? _____

4. How many legs does the mealworm have? _____

5. How many legs does the darkling beetle have? _____

6. What are the three body parts of the darkling beetle?

7. How many antennae does the mealworm have? _____

8. What kind of skeleton does the darkling beetle have? _____

9. What does the mealworm eat? _____

10. From where do mealworms obtain water? _____

11. What animals consume mealworms? _____

Your science textbook will be needed for some of the following questions.

12. What is metamorphosis?

13. What kind of metamorphosis does the mealworm undergo? _____

14. Describe this kind of metamorphosis:

15. What are some kinds of insects that go through this type of metamorphosis?

16. What is the other kind of metamorphosis? _____

17. Describe this kind of metamorphosis:

18. What are some kinds of insects that go through this type of metamorphosis?

19. To what phylum does the mealworm belong? _____

20. What are the four main characteristics of arthropods?

Well developed nervous system (not in book)

21. What are the four kinds of arthropods?

22. To what class does the mealworm belong? _____

23. To what order does the mealworm belong (common name)? _____

Read the definitions, then label the beetle anatomy diagram below.

abdomen - the segmented tail area of a beetle that contains the heart, reproductive organs, and most of the digestive system

antenna - like all insects, beetles have 2 segmented antennae

compound eye - a faceted eye made up of many hexagonal lenses

elytron - (plural elytra) elytra are hardened fore wings that protect the longer hind wings (**used twice**)

head - the head is at the front end of the beetle's body and is the location of the brain, the two compound eyes, the mouth parts, the pharynx (the start of the digestive system), and the points of attachment of its two antennae.

hind wing - beetles have two hind wings, used for flying (or swimming). These long wings can be folded under the elytra when not in use.

legs - like all insects, beetles have 6 jointed legs

mandibles - the jaws

maxillary palps - long, segmented mouth parts that grasp the food

thorax - the middle area of the beetle's body - where the legs and wings are attached

