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Classification

Arthropod / Insect

Feeding

- Fast moving carnivore with large jaws;
- Eat other invertebrates such as small insects, slugs and worms.

Habitat

- Found in soil and leaf litter; often seen under logs in woodlands and gardens.

Interesting Facts

- It has three body parts: head, thorax, abdomen;
- Wing cases are hard, joined down the middle and protect its soft body when under logs;
- Hooked feet and legs help it move quickly;
- Special hairs on its legs are used to keep antennae clean.

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Classification

Arthropod / Chilopod

Feeding

- Fast moving carnivore which chases its prey;
- Eats small insects, slugs and worms.

Habitat

- Found under logs and stones; often burrows into the soil to keep cool in hot weather.

Interesting Facts

- Can regenerate lost legs and grow new ones when it moults;
- Has two legs per body segment;
- Its first pair of legs has become fangs that inject poison into its prey!
- Has a flattened body to get into tight places.

3



Classification

Arthropod / Diplopoda

Feeding

- Slow moving; eats dead leaves and rotting wood;
- It is a detritivore.

Habitat

- Found in soil and leaf litter; often seen under logs in woodland and in compost heaps in gardens.

Interesting Facts

- Body is flattened to get into tight spaces;
- Has 4 legs per body segment;
- Uses antennae to sense vibrations;
- Each body segment has thick armour to protect it from predators;
- Can produce a poisonous fluid to put off predators.





Classification

Mollusc / Gastropod

Feeding

- Eats leaves, stems and roots of living plants; dead leaves and fungi;
- It is both a herbivore and a detritivore.

Habitat

- Found in woodland and gardens in damp, dark places e.g under logs or in the soil and leaf litter.

Interesting Facts

- It moves by rippling its large muscular foot;
- Slime helps it slide along easily, climb and stick to surfaces;
- It has a breathing hole on one side of its body;
- It has 2 pairs of retractable tentacles on its head; one pair has eyes, the other is for touching and tasting.

5



Classification

Arthropod / Arachnid

Feeding

- It is a carnivore which hunts other invertebrates and disables them with a poisonous bite from its fangs.

Habitat

- Some live under logs and stones; some live in trees and you may find them in your house!

Interesting Facts

- Most species have 8 eyes for spotting their prey!
- It has 2 body parts; a head and an abdomen;
- Makes a silk pouch to protect its eggs;
- Some species attach the egg sac to their bottom and when the babies hatch, the mother will carry them on her back for several weeks.

9



Classification

Arthropod / Crustacean

Feeding

- Eats dead wood and dead leaves; can sometimes destroy young trees;
- It is a detritivore.

Habitat

- Under logs and stones; often burrow into the soil to stay damp during hot weather.

Interesting Facts

- Relatives of shrimps and crabs;
- Females carry eggs and off-spring in a special pouch under its body;
- Breathes through gills so prefers to live in cool, damp areas;
- Has a segmented, armoured body with jointed antennae and 14 legs.





Classification

Annelida / Oligochaeta

Feeding

- Pulls dead leaves into its tunnel then eats them;
- It is a detritivore.

Habitat

- In soil and leaf litter; often found under logs in woodland and in compost heaps in the garden.

Interesting Facts

- Tiny retractable hairs cover its long body to help it move;
- Breathes through its skin as they do not have lungs;
- The tunnels it makes help air and water get into the soil;
- Adults have a larger section called a saddle near the head end of the body.