

abdomen

The end section of an insect's body.

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antenna

A pair of long, thin body parts on the heads of insects that are used to feel, smell and sometimes taste.

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camouflage

The colour or shape of an animal that helps it blend in with its surroundings.

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chrysalis

A hard case made by a caterpillar to cover itself so it can safely transform into a butterfly or moth. Also known as a pupa.

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classification

Putting things into groups.

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colony

A group of animals, plants or insects of the same kind that live together.

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entomology

The scientific study of insects.

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food chain

A series of living things that rely on each other for food.

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habitat

A place where plants and animals live.

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hive

A structure where bees live.

honey

A sweet, golden liquid made by honeybees from the nectar they collect from flowers.

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larva

A young wingless form of an insect. A caterpillar is the larva of a butterfly and a maggot is the larva of a house fly.

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life cycle

The changes a living thing goes through to turn into an adult.

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metamorphosis

When a young insect's body changes to become an adult. For example, a caterpillar transforming into a butterfly.

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microscope

A device that makes very small objects look bigger when you look into it.

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minibeast

A small animal without a backbone, such as an insect or spider.

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nectar

A sugary liquid that is made by flowers.

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pollen

A fine yellow powder that is made by flowers.

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pooter

A small bottle with two tubes used for collecting insects. Air is sucked through one tube and the insect is drawn into the bottle through the other.

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predator

An animal that eats other animals.

prey

Animals that are eaten by other animals.

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pupa

The stage of an insect's life cycle where it undergoes dramatic changes from a larva to an adult insect.

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species

A group of plants or animals that share the same characteristics and can breed with each other.

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specimen

Something that is examined or studied.

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thorax

The middle section of an insect's body, between the head and the abdomen. The legs and wings are attached to this section.