## Look Out for the Cicadas!



Depending on how you feel about bugs, the arrival of BILLIONS of cicadas might thrill you...or not. Look out for the cicadas! They will be arriving soon. It will be a bug fanfare.


Billions of bugs are coming, but don't worry. Cicadas are harmless. They don't sting or bite. They don't gobble up crops. However, they do make a huge noise. Male cicadas, when searching for a mate, create an enormous BUZZ that sounds like a lawn mower. The sound can reach a level of 90 to 100 decibels. Now that is certainly a way to get attention.

The cicada's noise has also gotten the attention of scientists. The Navy's Undersea Warfare Center is studying male cicadas to figure out how they can make so much racket with hardly any effort. It might help the Navy with remote sensing underwater. It might also assist with systems for ship-to-ship communications.


The group of cicadas that is coming are called BROOD X. They will appear in the eastern U.S. states of Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and also Washington, D.C. You will be able to find them easily because, well, they will be everywhere! They have black backs, orange bellies, four transparent wings, and two stunning red round eyes popping out on each side of their heads. They also have three extra eyes on top of their heads. It might be hard to find eyeglasses for a cicada.

Why are they called BROOD X ? It has to do with how these insects are categorized. Scientists have put over 3,000 cicada species into annual and periodical groups. Annual cicadas come out over the summer months and

HELLO MY NAME IS Brood X spend about two years underground. They have green markings and dark bodies. The periodical cicadas come out earlier in the year, and the group is called a brood. BROOD X will be arriving this year. Periodic cicadas spend an incredible 13 or 17 years underground.

You might be wondering a little bit about the cicada's life cycle since they are underground so much. Females lay between 200 to 400 eggs in small holes in shrub and tree branches. The baby cicadas are called nymphs and hatch after six to ten weeks. Then they fall to the ground, dig in, and attach themselves to tree roots. Then they play Rip van Cicada. BROOD X cicadas sleep for 17 years!

What on earth (or under the earth) do these bugs do then? Cicadas snack on tree sap while they nap. When the ground eight inches below the surface reaches a magic 64 degrees, they come out. Only about five weeks of a cicada's life is above ground.


For about five weeks, you will see cicadas everyplace. Some people think of cicadas as a gourmet food. They fry them or pickle them! Native Americans have enjoyed them. People say that cicadas taste like peanut butter or shrimp. A creative chef even put together a cookbook of cicada recipes.

Whether the arrival of billions of bugs thrills you or makes you want to hide, no one can avoid the cicada fanfare coming soon. So, look out for the cicadas! Then sit back and enjoy the sights and sounds of these unique bugs.


## 1. True or false:

Billions of cicadas will be coming soon.
A) True
B) False
2.

The cicadas will show up in California and the west coast.
A) True
B) False
3.

Which group of cicadas will come out soon?
A) BROOD X
B) BROOD Y
C) BROOD Z
D) None of the above

## 4.

Why would the cicadas' arrival be called a fanfare?

## 5.

BROOD X is part of which kind of cicada?
A) annual
B) periodontal
C) periodical
D) allergic
6.

Which branch of the armed forces is studying the noisy cicada?
A) Army
B) Navy
C) Marines
D) Air Force

## 7. True or false:

The cicada has a nasty bite.
A) True
B) False
8.

What did one chef do about cicadas?
A) He packaged them and sold them.
B) He wrote a cookbook with cicada recipes.
C) He opened a restaurant dedicated to bugs.
D) None of the above

Name:

## Look Out for the

## $\leftrightarrow$ STORY STARTERS

 Cicadas!1. Would you like to study bugs like cicadas? Why or why not?
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2. What would you say if your friend offered you a deep-fried cicada? Would you eat it?
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## Finding Words Multiple Times

Look for words to the RIGHT, to the LEFT, UP, or DOWN.

| $M$ | $E$ | $L$ | $Y$ | $X$ | $X$ | $A$ | $R$ | $O$ | $H$ | $T$ | $D$ | $A$ | $E$ | $H$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $Y$ | $A$ | $U$ | $T$ | $H$ | $O$ | $R$ | $A$ | $X$ | $T$ | $H$ | $O$ | $R$ | $A$ | $X$ |
| $T$ | $A$ | $D$ | $U$ | $L$ | $T$ | $S$ | $E$ | $L$ | $C$ | $A$ | $R$ | $I$ | $P$ | $S$ |
| $E$ | $I$ | $E$ | $R$ | $L$ | $A$ | $B$ | $M$ | $Y$ | $T$ | $X$ | $Y$ | $L$ | $E$ | $M$ |
| $M$ | $W$ | $O$ | $R$ | $R$ | $U$ | $B$ | $S$ | $S$ | $E$ | $I$ | $C$ | $E$ | $P$ | $S$ |
| $P$ | $A$ | $D$ | $U$ | $L$ | $T$ | $A$ | $E$ | $R$ | $B$ | $U$ | $R$ | $R$ | $O$ | $W$ |
| $E$ | $I$ | $S$ | $T$ | $E$ | $I$ | $B$ | $L$ | $E$ | $M$ | $E$ | $R$ | $G$ | $E$ | $S$ |
| $R$ | $M$ | $G$ | $C$ | $S$ | $N$ | $D$ | $C$ | $L$ | $X$ | $O$ | $I$ | $E$ | $I$ | $E$ |
| $A$ | $A$ | $N$ | $E$ | $G$ | $S$ | $O$ | $A$ | $A$ | $A$ | $W$ | $N$ | $M$ | $N$ | $I$ |
| $T$ | $G$ | $I$ | $S$ | $N$ | $E$ | $M$ | $R$ | $B$ | $R$ | $I$ | $S$ | $E$ | $S$ | $C$ |
| $U$ | $O$ | $S$ | $N$ | $I$ | $C$ | $E$ | $I$ | $M$ | $O$ | $N$ | $E$ | $R$ | $E$ | $E$ |
| $R$ | $E$ | $A$ | $I$ | $W$ | $T$ | $N$ | $P$ | $Y$ | $H$ | $G$ | $C$ | $G$ | $C$ | $P$ |
| $E$ | $S$ | $C$ | $H$ | $E$ | $A$ | $D$ | $S$ | $T$ | $T$ | $S$ | $T$ | $E$ | $T$ | $S$ |

Answers for blanks: $\begin{array}{llllllllll}2 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 2 & 2\end{array}$ I found SPECIES $\qquad$ time(s). $\square \square \square \square$

I found BURROW $\qquad$ time(s). $\square \square \square \square$

I found XYLEM $\qquad$ time(s).

I found SPIRACLES $\qquad$ time(s).

I found INSECT $\qquad$ time(s). $\square \square \square \square$

I found EMERGE $\qquad$ time(s). $\square \square \square \square$

I found THORAX $\qquad$ time(s). $\square \square \square \square$

I found HEAD $\qquad$ time(s). $\square \square \square \square$

I found WINGS $\qquad$ time(s).

I found TYMBAL $\qquad$ time(s).

Name:

Emma and Pam collected 49 cicadas.
Emma collected 27 fewer cicadas than
Pam. How many cicadas did Emma collect?

David thinks there will also be 17-year cicadas in 2092. Is he right?

Along with the 17-year cicadas, we also have 13 -year cicadas. What property do 13 and 17 both have? Hint: They are both not composite numbers.

The 17-year cicadas awoke in 2021. They will awake again in 17 years. When will that be?

Rose thinks there will also be 17-year cicadas in 2055. Is she right?

How many total legs on 12 cicadas?

How many total legs on 9 cicadas?

How many total legs on 10 cicadas?
$\qquad$

Male cicadas make a very loud noise. One of the reasons is to attract females. Compare the top picture to the bottom one. Circle ten differences in the bottom one when you examine these two.

$\qquad$


Below are facts about cicadas. Unscramble the underlined letters in each sentence and write it at the end.

## Cicadas ...

regularly shed their skin in a erocpss known as "molting." - - - - - -

In Australia they can be heard regularly in nsyyed.

Japan and China use them in niciedme. - - - - - - -

Underground, the nymph cicadas feed on otor juice.
$\qquad$
Cicada True or False Read each statement. If you believe it to be true, circle T. If you believe it to be false, circle F.


Once an adult moves above ground, it lives for six months.

## T F

You can often find the shells (discarded skins) of cicadas on indoor items.

Adults are usually between one and
two inches long.

They don't bite or sting.
T F
T F

Organs called "tymbals" are responsible for the sound male cicadas make.

## T F

After up to seventeen years, the nymph cicadas tunnel up and exit above ground.
$\qquad$


Did you know that you can EAT cicadas?! Draw a tasty treat around the cicada below.


Name: $\qquad$


The 17-Year Cicadas
states that will see
BROOD X cicadas
areas with heaviest emergence of BROOD X cicadas Will your town see cicadas from BROOD X? Yes No Maybe

Test your map knowledge!
Circle the 15 states that will see BROOD X cicadas:

| Alabama | Indiana | Nebraska | South Carolina |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Alaska | lowa | Nevada | South Dakota |
| Arizona | Kansas | New Hampshire | Tennessee |
| Arkansas | Kentucky | New Jersey | Texas |
| California | Louisiana | New Mexico | Utah |
| Colorado | Maine | New York | Vermont |
| Connecticut | Maryland | North Carolina | Virginia |
| Delaware | Massachusetts | North Dakota | Washington |
| Florida | Michigan | Ohio | West Virginia |
| Georgia | Minnesota | Oklahoma | Wisconsin |
| Hawaii | Mississippi | Oregon | Wyoming |
| Idaho | Missouri | Pennsylvania |  |
| Illinois | Montana | Rhode Island |  |

Name: $\qquad$


