

# True Bugs

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# What are true bugs?

- In the order \_\_\_\_\_, they are identifiable by how they feed.
- True bugs suck. Quite literally, too. They have a \_\_\_\_\_ mouthpiece called a \_\_\_\_\_ which is used like a vacuum to feed.
- This mouthpiece cannot be rolled up or retracted, like a bees can. It is \_\_\_\_\_ and stiff.

# Appearance

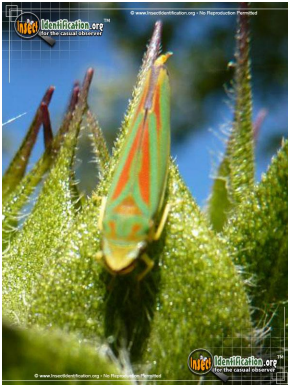
- True bugs all share the same things in common
- Tips of the adults wings are clear so that it looks like they only have half of a wing.
- The name, \_\_\_\_\_ , means half wing in Greek
- They have a long beak shaped mouth
- They have long antennae with few joints

# Reproduction and Life Cycle

- They lay \_\_\_\_\_, usually on the underside of plants and leaves
- After they hatch, they enter the \_\_\_\_\_ stage, where they develop important features, like \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and they grow larger in size.
- After they finish their nymph cycle, they mature into adults.
- During this they pretty much live to reproduce
- Putting this in the most school appropriate way, the male bugs inject the female's organs of reproduction with their \_\_\_\_\_, so that the female can later go and lay the \_\_\_\_\_ eggs.

# Methods of stalking and killing.

- Certain true bugs, like the assassin bug, kill their prey by \_\_\_\_\_
- They do this repeatedly until the organism is dead.
- Others, like the bed bug, \_\_\_\_\_ until they mature into adulthood
- The candy striped leafhopper feeds similarly to the bed bug, but from plants instead of animals.



# Defense mechanisms

- First off is the obvious stink bug.
- There are a lot of different variations of the stink bug, at least 75!
- The stink bug releases a smelly liquid when it feels endangered or if it's handled the wrong way, so try to be gentle if you have to pick them up.  
\_\_\_\_\_ them is definitely not something you want to do.

## Defense mechanisms cont...

- There's also the masked hunter. This is a type of assassin bug that feeds on \_\_\_\_\_, but when none of those are around, it eats roly polys and earwigs. This bug's self-defense is its strong beak.
- They use the beak to quickly \_\_\_\_\_ smaller prey to death, but if it meets anything bigger, it can leave a painful bite. This means that you do not want to pick them up without protection. To get rid of these pests, you usually have to have a professional exterminate them and their main food source, the \_\_\_\_\_.

# Fun facts

- There's about 85,000 types and species of true bugs
- The fun part: only about \_\_\_\_\_ are in North America
- Some stink bugs use their smell to attract mates
- About half of the true bugs you'll encounter have the potential to sting/bite with venom.