

Name: _____

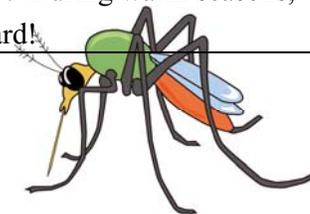
Using Details to Determine the Main Idea

Mosquitoes

Mosquitoes are one of the most annoying bugs that humans have to deal with in warm and hot climates. The life of a mosquito begins as an egg in shallow water. When the eggs hatch, they become larvae and stay in the water to feed on very tiny food particles that float in the water. After several days, the larvae will begin to transform by growing legs and wings. Once the larvae have its wings and legs, it is ready to fly and begin eating an entirely different diet, blood.

Mosquitoes cannot see very well. In order to find their next meal, they have sensors that allow them to sense carbon dioxide and body heat from humans and animals. Carbon dioxide is a gas that all animals and humans breathe out of their lungs. Once the mosquito finds its prey, it will first lick the area with a numbing solution. The numbing solution causes the area around the skin to go numb so that you will not be able to feel them when they are inserting their stinger in your skin to suck blood.

Since Mosquitoes can have other animals' and human's germs on their stingers, they can pass along germs to different the prey they bite. This can often cause diseases that can make people sick. The total life cycle of a mosquito is only about two weeks. Just before dying, the female mosquito will find an area with shallow water to lay more eggs so that new Mosquitoes can grow. During warm seasons, Mosquitoes will lay their eggs anywhere water is, even the puddles in your yard!



Use the paragraphs above to determine the important details and main idea.

List 2 important details

List 2 important details

List 2 important details

What is the Main Idea?