stinging scorplons

by Natalie Lunis

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NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Credits

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Publisher: Kenn Goin Editorial Director: Adam Siegel Creative Director: Spencer Brinker Original Design: Dawn Beard Creative Photo Researcher: Laura Saravia

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Lunis, Natalie.

Stinging scorpions / by Natalie Lunis.

p. cm. — (No backbone! The world of invertebrates)
Includes bibliographical references.
ISBN-13: 978-1-59716-756-7 (library binding)
ISBN-10: 1-59716-756-8 (library binding)
Scorpions—Juvenile literature. I. Title.

QL458.7.L86 2009 595.4'6—dc22

2008042377

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For more information, write to Bearport Publishing Company, Inc., 101 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6R, New York, New York 10003. Printed in the United States of America.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



Contents

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Deadly Stingers4
A Scorpion's Body6
Warm-Weather Homes
Sensing Food 10
Tearing into a Meal12
Becoming a Meal14
A Danger to People?
Lots of Babies
On Their Own 20
A World of Invertebrates 22
Glossary 23
Index 24
Read More 24
Learn More Online 24
About the Author

Deadly Stingers

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Scorpions are small animals with big front claws.

Like spiders, they have eight legs and belong to a group of animals called **arachnids**.

A scorpion, however, has something that no spider has—a tail with a deadly stinger.

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Scorpions can be from half an inch (1.3 cm) to 8 inches (20 cm) long.

A Scorpion's Body

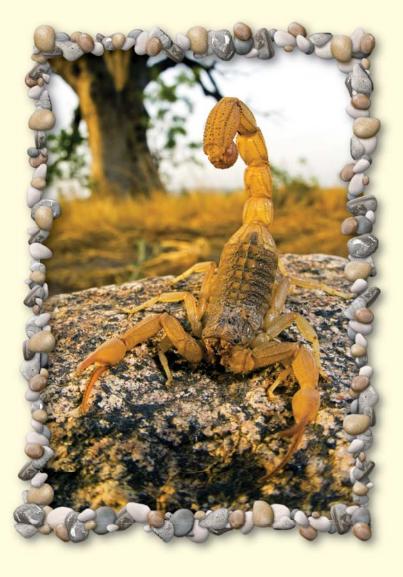
Like all arachnids, scorpions have two main body parts—a front part and a back part.

A scorpion's eight legs are attached to the front part, along with a pair of big, powerful claws.

A scorpion uses its claws to grab, tear, and crush other animals.

At the back part of the scorpion's body is its tail.

The tail has a sharp, curved stinger at the end, which can pump poison into the bodies of other animals.





A scorpion also has a hard covering called an exoskeleton on the outside of its body. The exoskeleton protects the scorpion's soft inner body parts and keeps them from drying out.



tail

legs





arachnids 4, 6, 18	enemies 14–15, 20	hunting 6, 8, 12, 20	size 5, 13
babies 18–19, 20	exoskeleton 7, 20,	legs 4, 6–7, 10	spiders 4, 13, 22
backbone 22	22	life cycle 18–19,	stinger 4, 6–7, 12,
claws 4, 6–7, 12	eyes 10	20–21	14, 16, 20
deer tick 22	food 10, 12–13, 20	molting 20	tail 4, 6–7, 11, 12
deserts 8–9	goliath birdeater	pectines 10	velvet mite 22
eggs 18	tarantula 22	poison 6	yellow garden
- 3 3	hairs 10–11	10–11	spider 22

Read More

McFee, Shane. Scorpions. New York: Rosen (2008). **Murray, Peter.** *Scorpions.* Mankato, MN: The Child's World (2008). **Richardson, Adele D.** *Scorpions*. Mankato, MN: Capstone (2003).

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To learn more about scorpions, visit www.bearportpublishing.com/NoBackbone-CreepyCrawlers

About the Author



Natalie Lunis has written many science and nature books for children. She lives in the Hudson River Valley, just north of New York City. [Intentionally Left Blank]



If you see a scorpion crawling close to you, watch out! This spooky-looking animal has a poisonous stinger at the end of its tail that can be very painful—and sometimes even deadly! Look inside to discover more fascinating facts about these stinging creatures.

Bloodsucking Leeches Creeping Land Snails Leggy Centipedes

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