

**No
Backbone!**

The World of Invertebrates

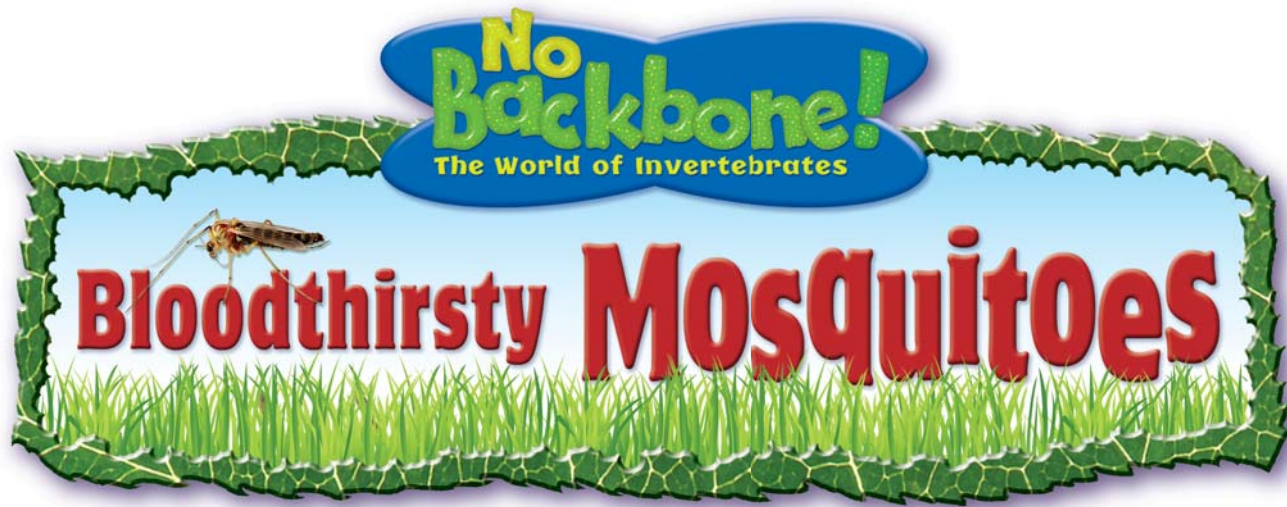


Bloodthirsty Mosquitoes



by
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Contents

Little Flies	4
Thirsty for Food	6
Out for Blood	8
Carrying Disease	10
Mosquitoes on the Menu	12
Eggs in Water	14
Growing and Molting	16
Becoming an Adult	18
A Short Life	20
A World of Invertebrates.	22
Glossary	23
Index	24
Read More	24
Learn More Online	24
About the Author	24

Little Flies

Mosquitoes are tiny **insects**.

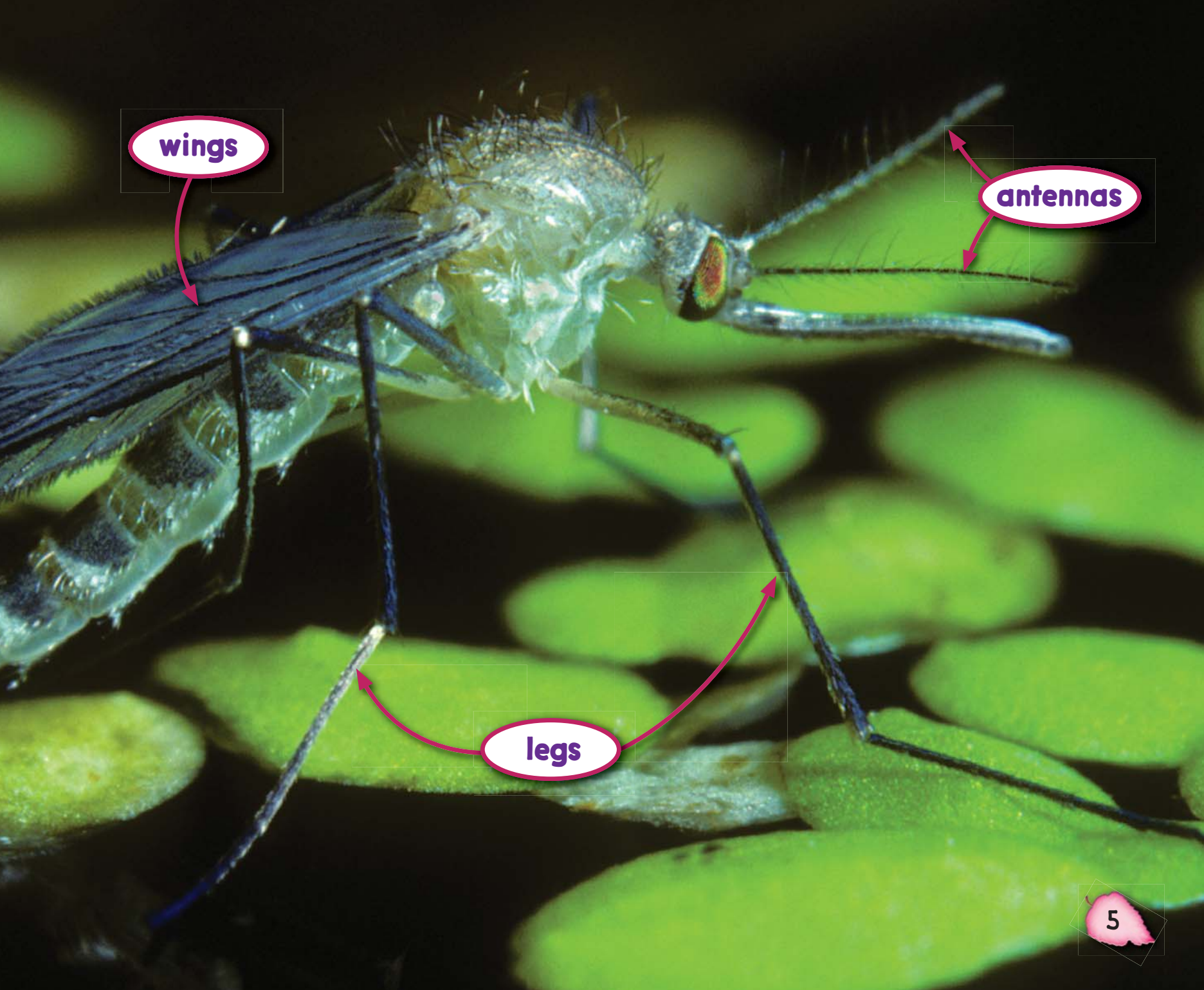
They belong to the same group of insects as flies.

Like all flies, mosquitoes have two wings, two antennae, and six legs.

They also have a hard covering called an exoskeleton on the outside of their bodies.

The exoskeleton protects the soft parts of a mosquito's body.

The word *mosquito* comes from Spanish. It means "little fly."



wings

antennas

legs

Thirsty for Food

Both male and female mosquitoes have a long, thin **beak** on their heads.

They use the beak to suck a sweet liquid called nectar from flowers.

Females also use it to poke a hole in the skin of animals and suck their blood.

They need the blood to make eggs inside their bodies.



Some people call mosquitoes the vampires of the insect world.



Index

antennas 4–5, 8–9

backbone 22

beak 6

blood 6, 8–9, 10

disease 10

dragonflies 12–13, 18

eggs 6, 14–15, 18, 20

enemies 12–13, 18

equator 10

exoskeleton 4, 16, 22

flies 4, 22

food 6

fruit fly 22

gnat 22

horse fly 22

house fly 22

larva 16–17, 18

legs 4–5

life cycle 14–15, 16–17,
18–19, 20

malaria 10

molting 16, 18

nectar 6

pupa 18–19

raft 15

wings 4–5

yellow fever 10



Read More

Bailey, Jill. *Mosquito*. Chicago:
Heinemann (1998).

Kalman, Bobbie. *The Life Cycle of a Mosquito*.
New York: Crabtree Publishing (2004).

Learn More Online

To learn more about mosquitoes, visit

www.bearportpublishing.com/NoBackbone-Insects



About the Author

Meish Goldish has written more than 100 books for children.

He lives in Brooklyn, New York.

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Why do female mosquitoes drink people's blood?

They need it to make eggs inside their bodies.

**Look inside to discover more fascinating facts
about these bloodsucking creatures.**

Beautiful Butterflies

Bloodthirsty Mosquitoes

Deadly Praying Mantises

Helpful Ladybugs

Hidden Walkingsticks

Hungry Cockroaches

Killer Bees

Leaping Grasshoppers

Smelly Stink Bugs

Speedy Dragonflies

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