

**No
Backbone!**

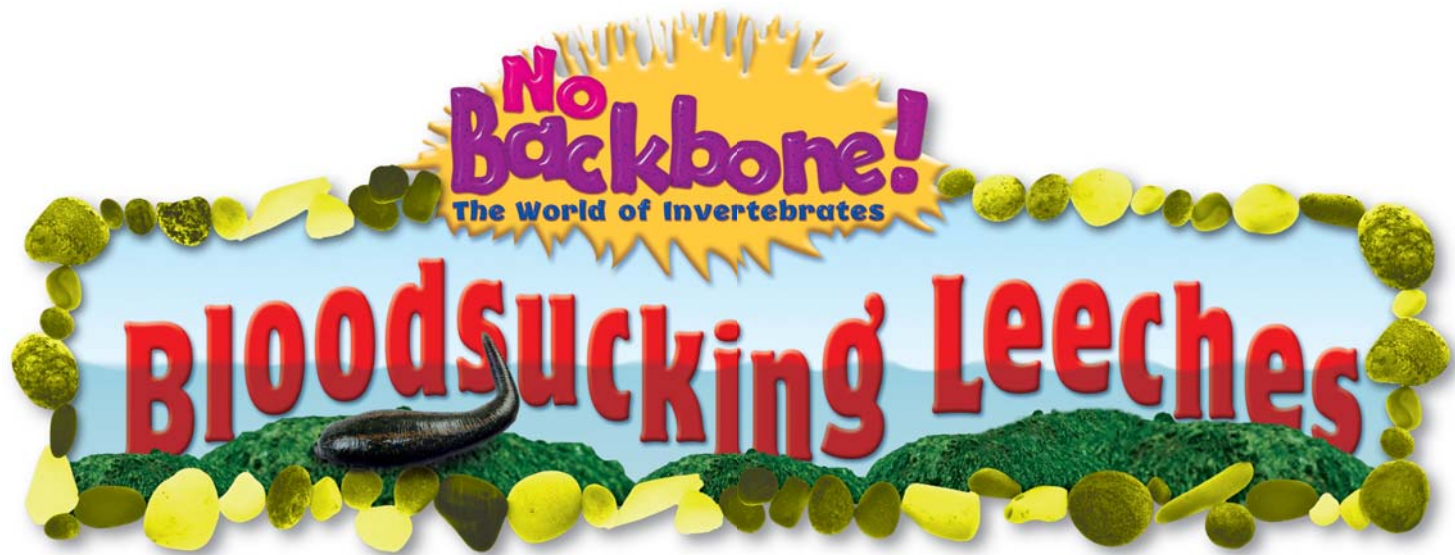
The World of Invertebrates

Bloodsucking Leeches



by Pearl Neuman

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by Pearl Neuman

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Bloodsuckers

Leeches are worms that live in swamps, ponds, and other watery places.

Some leeches eat tiny fish and snails.

Most leeches, however, get their food in a different way.

They suck blood from animals—including people!

Leeches can be found all over the world. Some even live on land—in places such as warm, wet forests.



leech in a
rain forest



**leeches in
water**

Many Sizes, Many Colors

There are more than 650 kinds of leeches.

Some are less than half an inch (1 cm) long.

Others stretch out to 12 inches (30 cm) or more.

The largest leech in the world is the Amazon leech.

It can grow up to 18 inches (46 cm) in length.



Many leeches
are black or brown.
Some, however, are very
colorful with bright
stripes or spots.



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Learn More Online

To learn more about leeches, visit

www.bearportpublishing.com/NoBackbone-CreepyCrawlers

About the Author

Pearl Neuman lives in Bergen County, New Jersey.
She does her best to avoid leeches and other bloodsuckers.



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What do leeches eat when they're hungry? Some catch tiny fish and snails. Most leeches, however, get their food in a different way. They feed on the blood of animals—including people! Look inside to discover more fascinating facts about these bloodsucking creatures.

Bloodsucking Leeches

Creeping Land Snails

Leggy Centipedes

Roly-Poly Pillbugs

Stinging Scorpions

Wiggly Earthworms

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