

# True or False? - How insects smell!



Worcestershire  
Wildlife Trust

1. Insects have no nostrils

2. Insects smell using their antennae

3. An insect's sense of smell is stronger than a human's

4. If insects accidentally sniff cheese they will immediately fall asleep

5. Insects use their sense of smell to find food

6. Insects use smell to work out where their enemies are and then get away!

7. Insect's antennae have smell receptors. These are cells that pick up a scent and tell the insect if this is a good thing to eat.

8. Insect's smell receptors are shaped like surf boards and when they pick up a scent an insect breaks into a dance

9. Insects can sniff a smell that is miles away

10. Insects have noses that are bigger than humans

11. Insects can smell with their feet

# How insects smell - answers!



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1. Insects have no nostrils  
**TRUE!**

2. Insects smell using their antennae  
**TRUE!**

Antennae often look like stalks on the top of an insect's head. These are very good at sensing smell. Sometimes they look like small bumps, feathers or even a string of beads.

3. An insect's sense of smell is stronger than a human's  
**TRUE!**

This sense is really important to help an insect survive.

4. If insects accidentally sniff cheese they will immediately fall asleep  
**FALSE!**

5. Insects use their sense of smell to find food  
**TRUE!**

Insects use smell receptors in their antennae to find their food.

6. Insects use smell to work out where their enemies are and then get away!  
**TRUE!**

Antennae aren't just for smelling food but also for sniffing out smelly enemies.

7. Insect's antennae have smell receptors. These are cells that pick up a scent and tell the insect if this is a good thing to eat.  
**TRUE!**

Antennae are made up of smell receptors. These cells pick up a scent, this information is then sent to the insect's brain.

8. Insect's smell receptors are shaped like surfboards and when they pick up a scent an insect breaks into a dance  
**FALSE!**

9. Insects can sniff a smell that is miles away  
**TRUE!**

Saturniid moths can smell the scent of another saturniid moth, even if it is miles away.

10. Insects have noses that are bigger than humans  
**FALSE!**

11. Insects can smell with their feet  
**TRUE and FALSE!**  
There are a few insects that can smell with their feet but most insects taste with their feet.