

# The Praying Mantis

1. Noun - Plural
2. Noun - Plural
3. Noun - Plural
4. Verb - Present Ends In Ing
5. Body Parts- Paired
6. Same Verb- Present Tense Ending In Ing
7. Noun
8. Noun
9. Noun - Plural
10. Adjective
11. Adjective
12. Noun - Plural
13. Noun - Plural
14. Noun - Plural
15. Animal (Plural)
16. Animal (Plural)
17. Part Of Body
18. Part Of Body
19. Part Of Body
20. Part Of Body
21. Part Of Body
22. Noun
23. Number

- 24. Number
- 25. Unit Of Measure
- 26. Part Of Body
- 27. Adjective
- 28. Number
- 29. Number
- 30. Color
- 31. Noun
- 32. Same Noun

# The Praying Mantis

One of the most well-known and fearsome insect predators that inhabits \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ around the world is the \_\_\_\_\_ Mantis. This

camouflaged creature gets its name from the way it holds its front pair of \_\_\_\_\_ at rest-

resembling someone \_\_\_\_\_. This position actually serves to help the mantis look

less like a \_\_\_\_\_ as it hides in plain \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ and prey alike.

Rather than hunt for its food, the mantis sits still on a leaf or plant stem (sometimes for hours at a time) until

something \_\_\_\_\_ comes along. It then ambushes its victim, pouncing on it and grasping it in its

strong, spiny \_\_\_\_\_ forelimbs. The praying mantis feeds mostly on other \_\_\_\_\_, such as

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, but larger individuals have been known to attack and consume

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. A common misconception about mantis feeding behavior is that

they always bite their prey's \_\_\_\_\_ off first in order to sever the \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ and kill it instantly. On the contrary, a mantis will simply begin eating whatever is closest to its mouth

even if that means devouring its victim \_\_\_\_\_ first while it is still alive.

A baby mantis, called a \_\_\_\_\_, will generally hatch from its egg in early summer. It will take about

\_\_\_\_\_ months for it to reach breeding size at around \_\_\_\_\_ in length.

Praying mantis females are larger and stronger than males, and are famous for their habit of biting off the male's

\_\_\_\_\_ and then eating him during mating. This actually happens far less often in the wild than it

does in captivity, (where most mantis mating is observed) because the \_\_\_\_\_ conditions of a cage do

not

give the male a chance to escape.

A female mantis, when she is ready, will lay \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Number</sup> \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Number</sup> eggs inside a \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Color</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, styrofoam- like pouch called an \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Noun</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. She may lay several over the course of her life. She abandons her offspring immediately to survive on their own. The eggs spend the winter inside the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Same noun</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and don't hatch until next summer, when the cycle begins anew.