

Name _____



A Day in the Life of a Mosquito

Mosquitoes may be small, but they have busy and fascinating daily habits. Their activities depend on the time of day, the environment, and their need for food.

Most mosquitoes are most active during twilight hours, which means early morning and evening. During these times, the light is dim, and the temperature is cooler, making it the perfect time for mosquitoes to search for food. Some species, like the Aedes mosquito, are also active during the day, while others prefer to fly around at night.

Mosquitoes do not live alone. They often gather in large groups near water, where females can lay their eggs. These groups make it easier for mosquitoes to find mates and survive as a species. Male mosquitoes tend to form swarms, especially during mating season, to attract females. Despite living in groups, mosquitoes don't interact much with one another outside of mating.

When searching for food, female mosquitoes use their sharp senses to find blood, while male mosquitoes stick to nectar. Mosquitoes rely on body heat, carbon dioxide, and scent to locate warm-blooded animals. Once they have fed, mosquitoes rest in cool, shady places like under leaves or in tall grass. This is where they stay until it is time to feed or lay eggs again.

Mosquitoes' daily habits help them adapt to their environments. Whether buzzing in swarms or resting in the shade, these tiny creatures follow patterns that keep their species thriving.