

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## How Do Mosquitoes Move? Buzz and Glide



Mosquitoes are famous for their ability to fly, but how exactly do these tiny insects move? Their lightweight bodies and unique wings make them incredible fliers.

Mosquitoes move primarily by flying. They have two long, thin wings that beat up to 1,000 times per second! This rapid wing movement not only helps them fly but also creates the buzzing sound they are known

for. Mosquitoes are not fast fliers, usually flying at speeds of 1 to 1.5 miles per hour. However, they are very agile, meaning they can change directions quickly to avoid predators or find food.

Flying is not the only way mosquitoes move. In their larva stage, mosquitoes live in water and move by wriggling their bodies. This is why mosquito larvae are sometimes called "wrigglers." They use this movement to avoid predators and search for food like algae and tiny organisms in the water.

Adult mosquitoes are specially built for efficient flying. Their long, slender legs and lightweight bodies allow them to land gently on surfaces like leaves, water, or even human skin. Mosquitoes can take off quickly after landing, which helps them escape danger or move to a new location.

Mosquitoes also use their wings and bodies to hover. Hovering helps them stay in one spot while feeding on nectar or finding a mate. This is similar to how a hummingbird moves, though mosquitoes are much smaller and less powerful.

Despite their small size, mosquitoes are incredibly efficient movers. Their ability to fly, hover, and wriggle helps them survive in a variety of environments. Whether buzzing through the air or wriggling in water, mosquitoes are always on the move!