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## Moth Survival: Predators and Threats

Moths are delicate creatures that face many dangers in the wild. From predators to environmental changes, moths have to stay alert to survive. These threats come from animals, diseases, and even human activities.

One of the biggest dangers to moths is predators. Birds, bats, spiders, and even frogs all see moths as a tasty snack. Birds hunt moths during the day when moths are resting on trees or leaves, while bats use echolocation to find them flying at night. Spiders may catch moths in their sticky webs, and frogs will snatch them if they fly too close to the ground. To protect themselves, moths use camouflage to blend in with their surroundings or show off bright wing patterns that scare away predators.

Parasites are another threat to moths. Tiny wasps and flies can lay their eggs on moth caterpillars. When the eggs hatch, the parasites feed on the caterpillar, which can harm or even kill it. Moths also face diseases caused by fungi, bacteria, and viruses that attack their bodies and weaken them.

Environmental changes are another big problem for moths. Deforestation and habitat loss take away the plants moths need for food and shelter. Pesticides used by humans to protect crops can kill moths and their caterpillars. Even light pollution, which is caused by bright lights at night, can confuse moths and make it harder for them to find food or mates.

Despite these challenges, moths have clever ways to survive. Some moths mimic the appearance of wasps or other dangerous insects to trick predators into leaving them alone. Others release bad-tasting chemicals to make them less appealing as food. Their ability to adapt to changing environments has helped them survive for millions of years.

Moths may seem small and fragile, but they play an important role in nature by pollinating plants and serving as food for other animals. Protecting them and their habitats is essential to keeping ecosystems balanced.