

Richmond Park Beautiful Bugs quiz

This week it's **inspirational invertebrates**; Richmond Park has around 30 butterfly species, 140 different spiders, 750 types of moth and 1,350+ beetle species!

Now lets see what you know about our little friends....

Answers in red

Aliens, Admirals and poo! It's a bug's life.



1. Stag beetles are particularly associated with Richmond Park especially because they need lots of dead wood left rotting on the ground. Although they look fearsome, the males' huge red 'horns' are only used to fight with other males for the right to mate with the smaller females. Do you know the proper name for these horns? 1 point **A: Mandibles**
2. Female beetles lay eggs deep in the ground and the large larvae pictured grow up to 10 cms. For 1 point, how long in years does it take them to emerge as beetles? a) 1 year; b) 2 years; c) 5 years. **A: c) 5 years** For a second point, what do the larvae eat? **Rotting wood.**



3. The diet of the beetle pictured left is very different to the stag beetle. In fact they eat poo! Do you know the name of this group of specialist beetles? 1 point **A: Dung beetle**
4. Richmond Park is so special for nature it's designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest partly due to 700 acres of very rare 'acid grasslands' with their numerous anthills. Can you guess, for 1 point how many anthills there are? a)

50,000; b) 100,000; c) 400,000? **A: c) 400,000**

5. The anthills are very sensitive as they're filled with huge complex colonies of Yellow Meadow Ants (pictured right). Can you guess how many there are? a) 10 million; b) 500 million; c) 3 billion. 1 point **A: c) 3 billion**



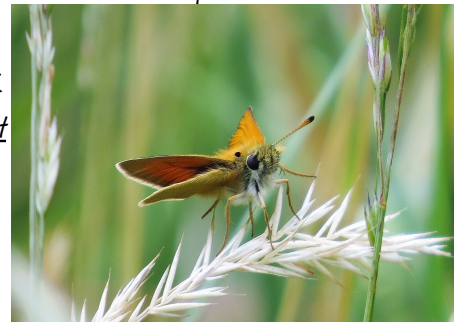
6. The ants are a vital food source for one of Richmond Park's favourite and most colourful birds (pictured); for 1 point, what is it called? **A: Green Woodpecker** (David Attenborough features them in his Richmond Park film on YouTube).





7. Most of us know the Red Admiral butterfly; do you know the name of its family cousin pictured left? **A: White Admiral** 1 point
8. The Red Admiral mentioned above is unusual in its lifespan; how many months can it live for? **A: up to 9 or 10 months** 1 point

9. What are the three species of Skipper butterfly seen in the Park



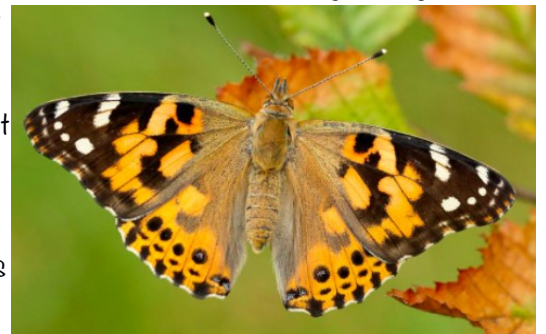
each summer? The one pictured right is named after an English county? 1 point for each, total 3 points. **A: Essex (picture), Small and Large.**

10. There are up to 30 butterfly species seen in Richmond Park each year; do you know how many species are regularly seen in the whole UK? 1 point
A: 59 species, 57 of which are resident.

11. A controversial play, written by Denis Potter, with a film version starring Denholm Elliot, Joan Plowright and Sting, featured the name of the beautiful butterfly (left) as the first word of the title. For 1 point, what is the name of the butterfly and for a 2nd point, what was the film and play called? **A: Brimstone; Brimstone and Treacle**



12. Most British butterflies are resident but there are two regular migrants. Last year, the butterfly pictured right arrived in the Park and across the UK in great numbers having migrated



thousands of miles from Africa. (Chris Packham said it was "one of the wonders of the natural world"). For 1 point, what is the name of this marvellous migrant or decorated dame? **A: Painted Lady**

13. Can you identify the butterfly pictured left, seen mainly in July? Found at the grassland edges and often on brambles and ragwort in Richmond Park, its distinctive wing markings give a clue to its name. 1 point



A: Ringlet

14. The small, beautiful butterfly (right) is particularly associated with oak trees,



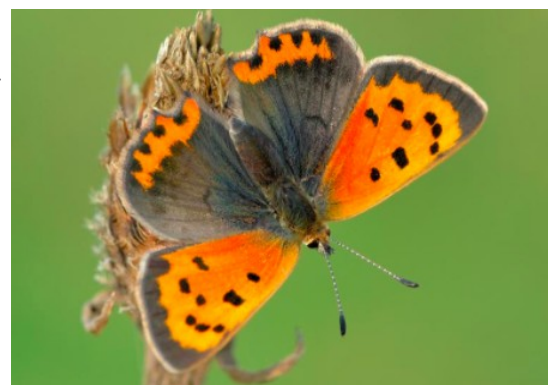
its larval foodplant, and is surprisingly common in the Park in July and August? (Clue; its colour could be a highlight?) 1 point **A: Purple Hairstreak**

15. The dramatically coloured red and black moth below is seen widely in the Park during the summer, just starting to appear now. For 1 point, do you know its name and, for a 2nd point, the wildflower (loathed by many horse owners!) that its colourful caterpillar feeds on?



A: Cinnabar; Ragwort

16. Pseudonyms: can you find the real names for these mis-named butterflies? 1/2 point for each (total 2): a) Little



Turtleshell; b) Freckled Timber; c) Apostrophe; d) Scarlet Naval Commander? **A: Small Tortoiseshell; Speckled Wood; Comma; Red Admiral**

17. The pretty butterfly pictured right is seen around the Park throughout the

summer; it could be mis-named as 'Little Policeman'; what is its real name? 1 point **A: Small Copper**



18. Another stunning coloured moth sometimes seen in the Park on warm days is pictured on the left with its caterpillar below. The dramatic colours of both give the second word of the name (usually associated with a jungle predator!) while the moth's first name is an island to the southwest of England. What is it? 1 point **A: Jersey Tiger**

19. The Park is a great place to see Dragonflies and Damselflies; do you know what distinguishes them from each other when they're resting? 1 point **A: Dragonflies wings are at right angles, Damselflies fold alongside their bodies.**

20. This fearsome beast (right) is a dragonfly larva; a fearsome hunter in freshwater which emerges (after many development stages) to become a beautiful



dragonfly. Do you know the name of these larvae? (Clue: it's the same as a mythological spirit of nature) 1 point **A: Nymph**

21. For 1 point each (total 3 points), complete the names of these dragonflies found in Richmond Park (clues in brackets for each):



A



B



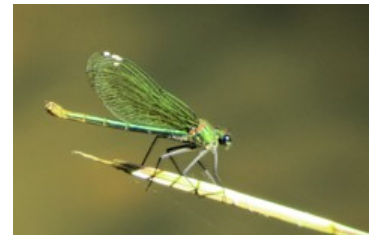
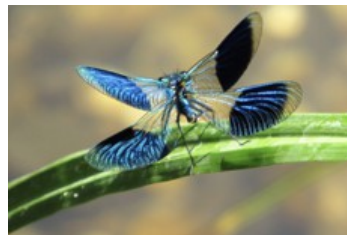
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A. Southern **A: Hawker** (Could be a door-to-door salesman?)

B. Broad-bodied **A: Chaser** (It's after you!)

C. Ruddy **A: Darter** (ISO!)

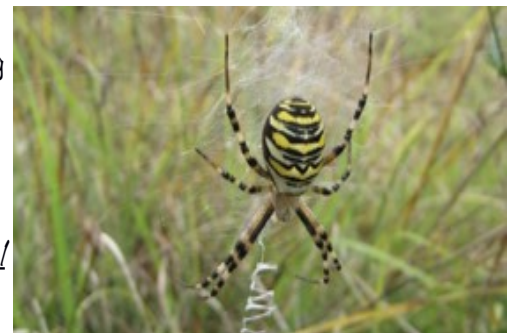
22. There is a species of Damselfly that has a French name which translates as "young lady" in English. Pictured are the beautiful male (left) and female of the "Banded" species. Do you know the name of the species? 1 point **A: Demoiselle**



23. This incredible, fearsome looking wasp (left, picture by Paula Redmond) is in fact harmless to humans. Its long rear antenna is an ovipositor, used to lay eggs in unsuspecting insect larvae so the wasps' young will grow inside their hosts (apparently the inspiration for the Alien films!).

It's name like the long antenna is a sword.

What is it? 1 point **A: Sabre Wasp**



24. Crab, Wasp and Wolf are different species of what type of invertebrate? 1 point **A: Spiders**

25. From its distinct colours and pattern, can you guess the name of the

invertebrate pictured on the right? 1 point **A: Wasp Spider**

26. Are spiders classified as insects? 1 point **A: Arachnids**

27. Many of the bugs we've featured in this quiz are pollinators which transfer pollen across plants, thus fertilising them so they can produce seeds and fruits, essential to us for food. For 1 point, do you know how many different species of insect pollinators there are in Britain? a) 500; b) 1,500; c) 5,000. **A: c) 1,500**

End of quiz

A maximum of 35 points can be scored: how many can you get?

Good luck, we hope you enjoyed it!

Help protect Richmond Park's wonderful wildlife.

Join the Friends of Richmond Park now from just £10 per year.

Members enjoy weekly bird and nature walks and talks in the Park, receive membership email bulletins and a printed newsletter and are invited to special events for adults and children. Don't miss out.

www.frp.org.uk/membership



Many thanks to Nigel Jackman, Paula Redmond, www.butterfly-conservation.org, The Royal Parks and www.british-dragonflies.org.uk for wonderful pictures and content ideas.