

Natural Services of
Grass

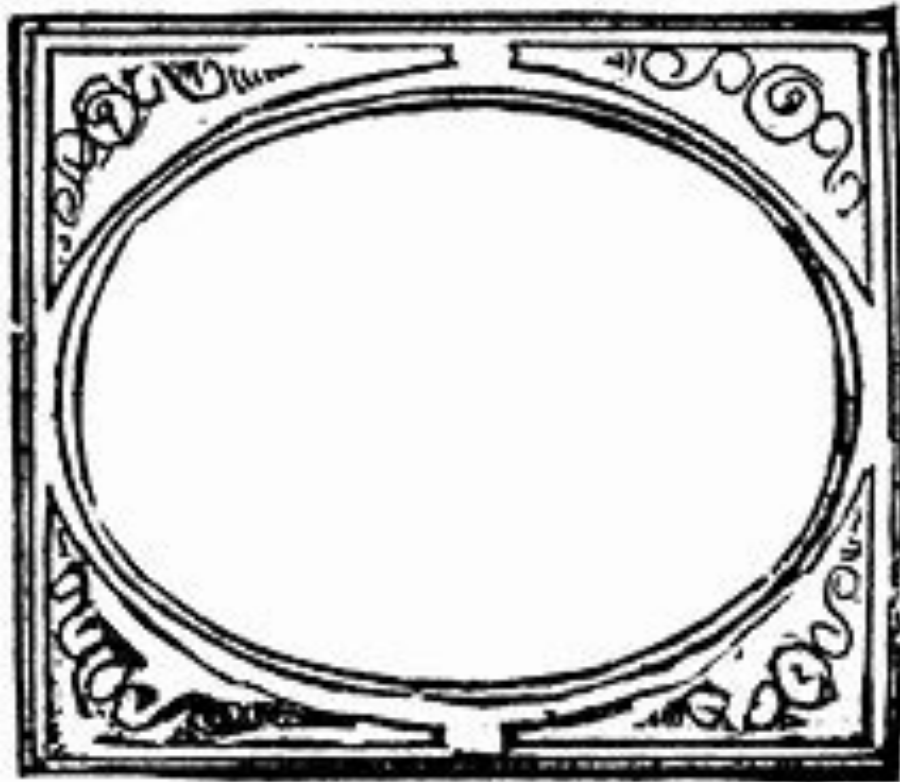
Green Grows
the Grass

Did you eat grass today? If you ate cereal, or bread, or a cracker or a cookie, you were eating grass! All those foods are made of grains. Grains are the seeds of grasses. Wheat, rice corn, are all the seeds of grasses.

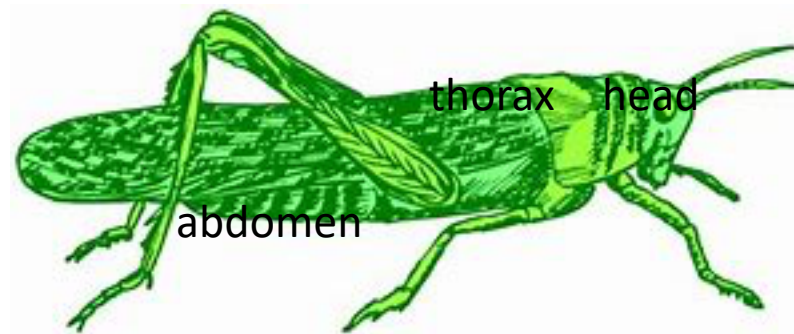


Grasses are very important. Grasses do many things. Grasses provide food for animals. They provide shelter and hiding places. Grasses keep the soil in place. Grasses make the air healthy. Grasses help the Earth hold water. Grasses give us food too!

Draw a picture of a grass food you ate today:

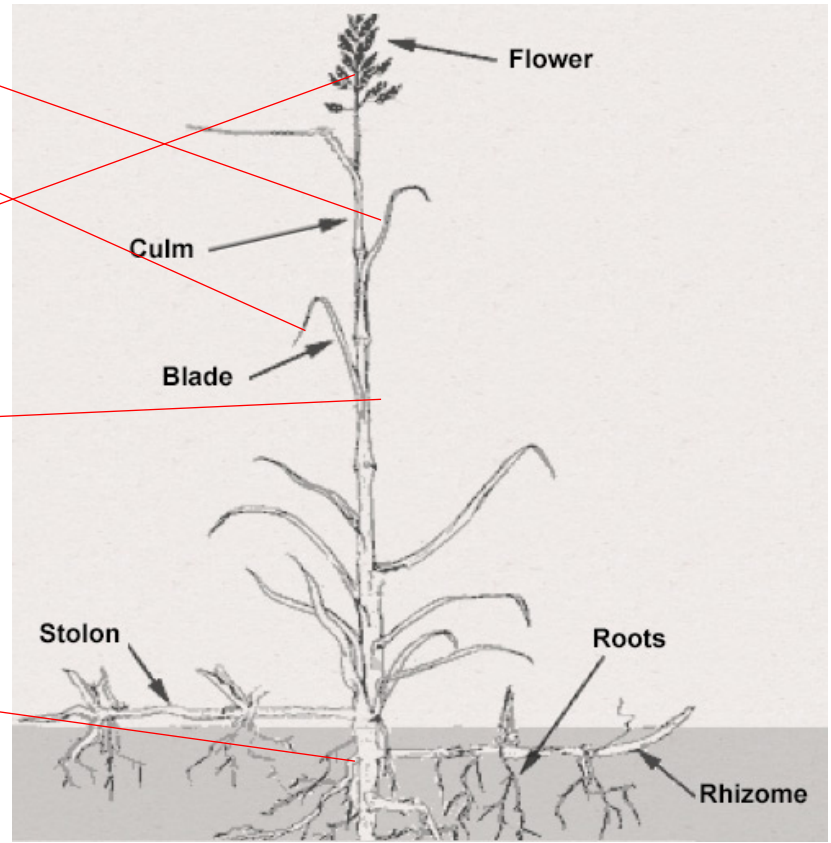


Grasshoppers are an insect that live in grass. Grasshoppers have three body parts, 6 legs and two antennae. Grasshoppers molt to grow. Grasshoppers have incomplete metamorphosis (3 stages)—eggs, nymphs, adults. Nymphs look like baby grasshoppers.



Grasses have parts like other plants.

- The culm is the stem.
- The blade is the leaf.
- The inflorescence is the flower.
- The sheath is where the leaf attaches to the stem.
- The roots are on or in the ground.



Finger play:

Grasshoppers in the grass

all day (fingers up to make grass)

with strong legs

to jump away! (fist long jump)



You can read a grass story or sing a grass song!

Sing to *Down by the Station*

Out in the summer (hands out to sides)



Early in the morning

See the little grass blades (fingers pointing up)

Shining in the sun. (point to sky)

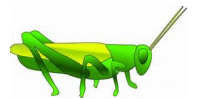


See the little grasshopper

Jumping in the grasses—

Up down up down— (fist up and down)

Now we're done! (clap)



The Story of Grass

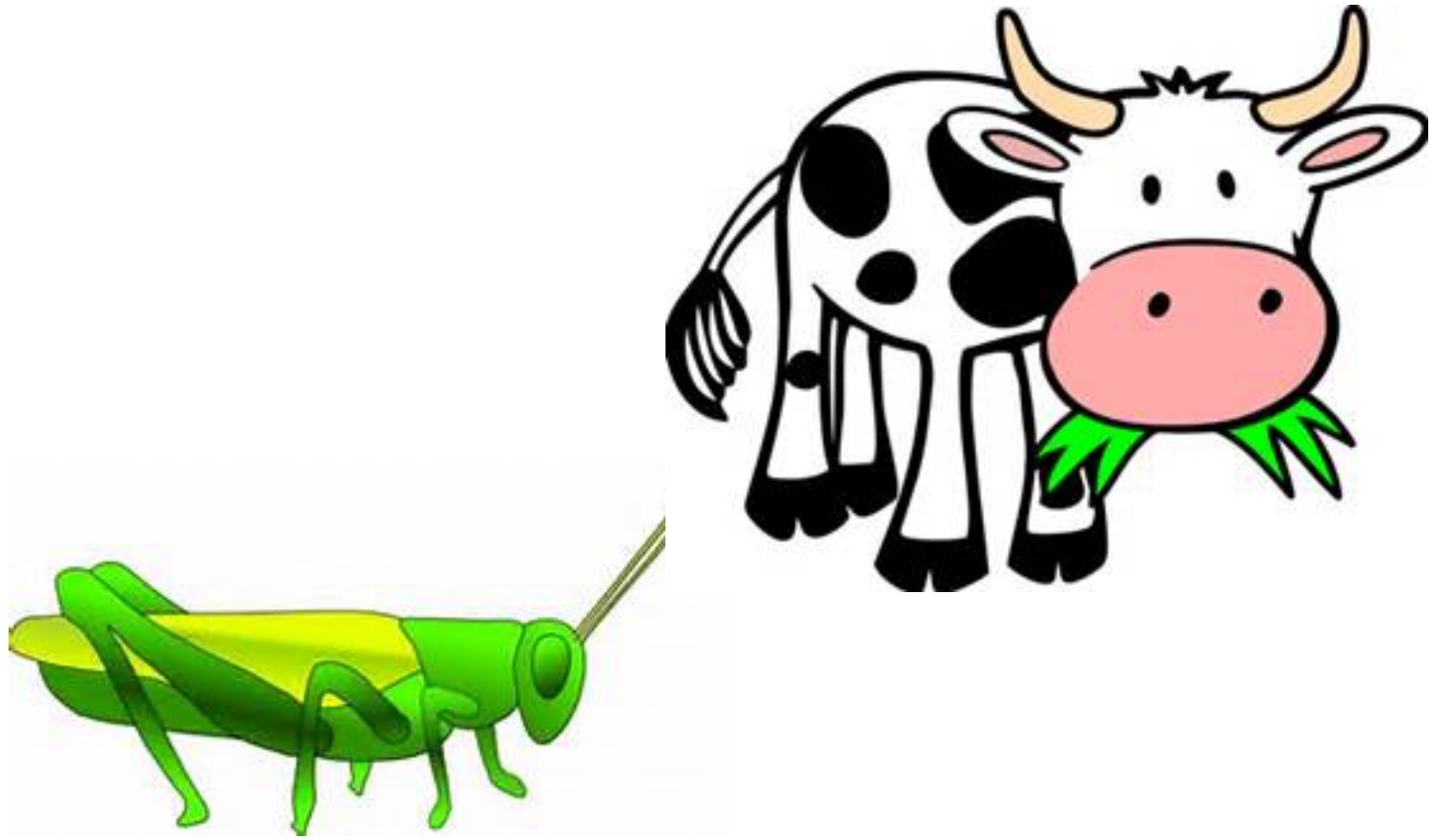
What are all the things the grass can do?



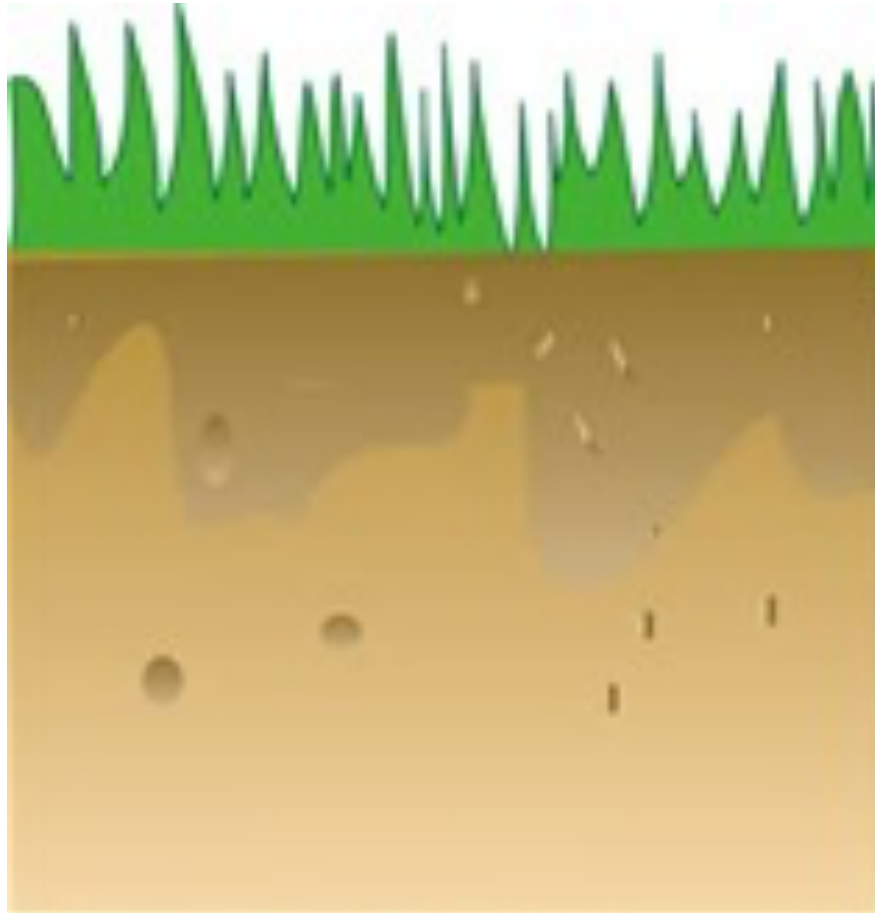
It makes food for me and you!



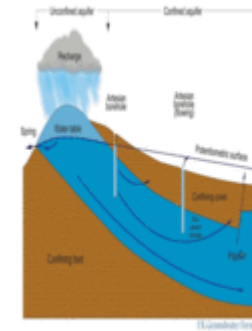
It gives animals shelter and things to eat.



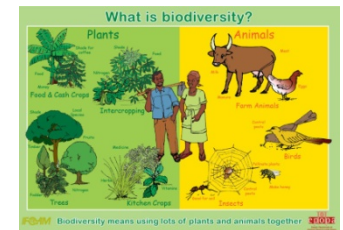
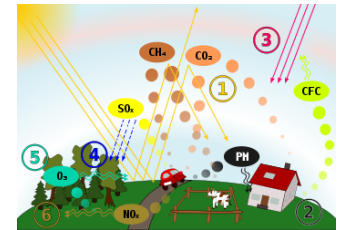
It holds the soil and water—I
think that's neat!



Grasses help us--

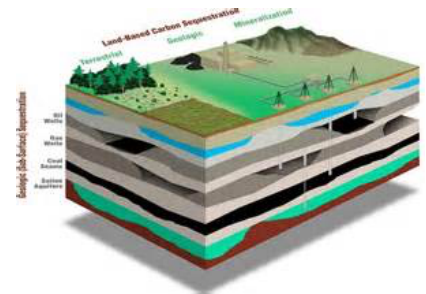
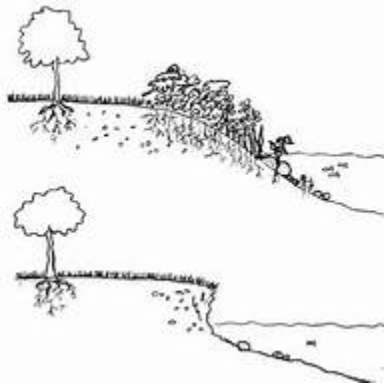


- Hold soil
- Keep water from running off
- Put away carbon
- Keep harmful substances out of water and air
- Increase the kinds of living things
- Hold food in the soil
- Keep down plants which would take over
- Feed reptiles , insects, birds and animals
- Reduce dry wood that could catch on fire

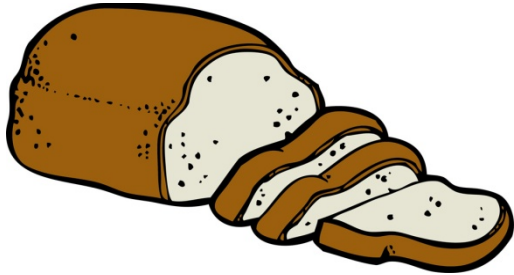


What grass does.....

- Keeps soil in place
- Stores carbon
- Reduces run-off
- Reduces fire damage
- Increases biodiversity
- Nourishes soil
- Captures water

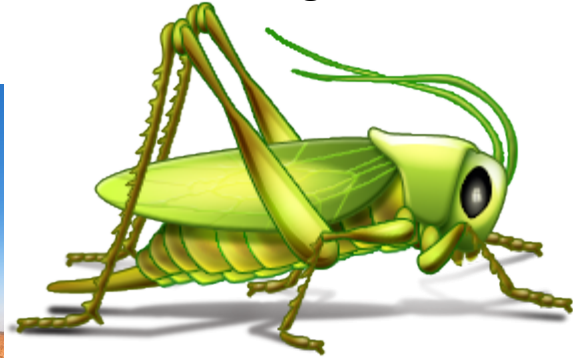
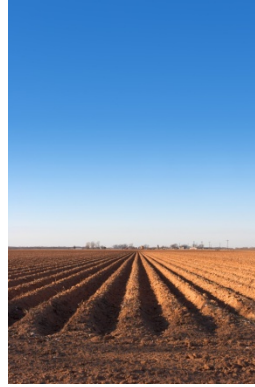


We eat grass!



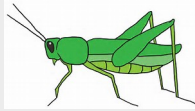


Things to remember about grass





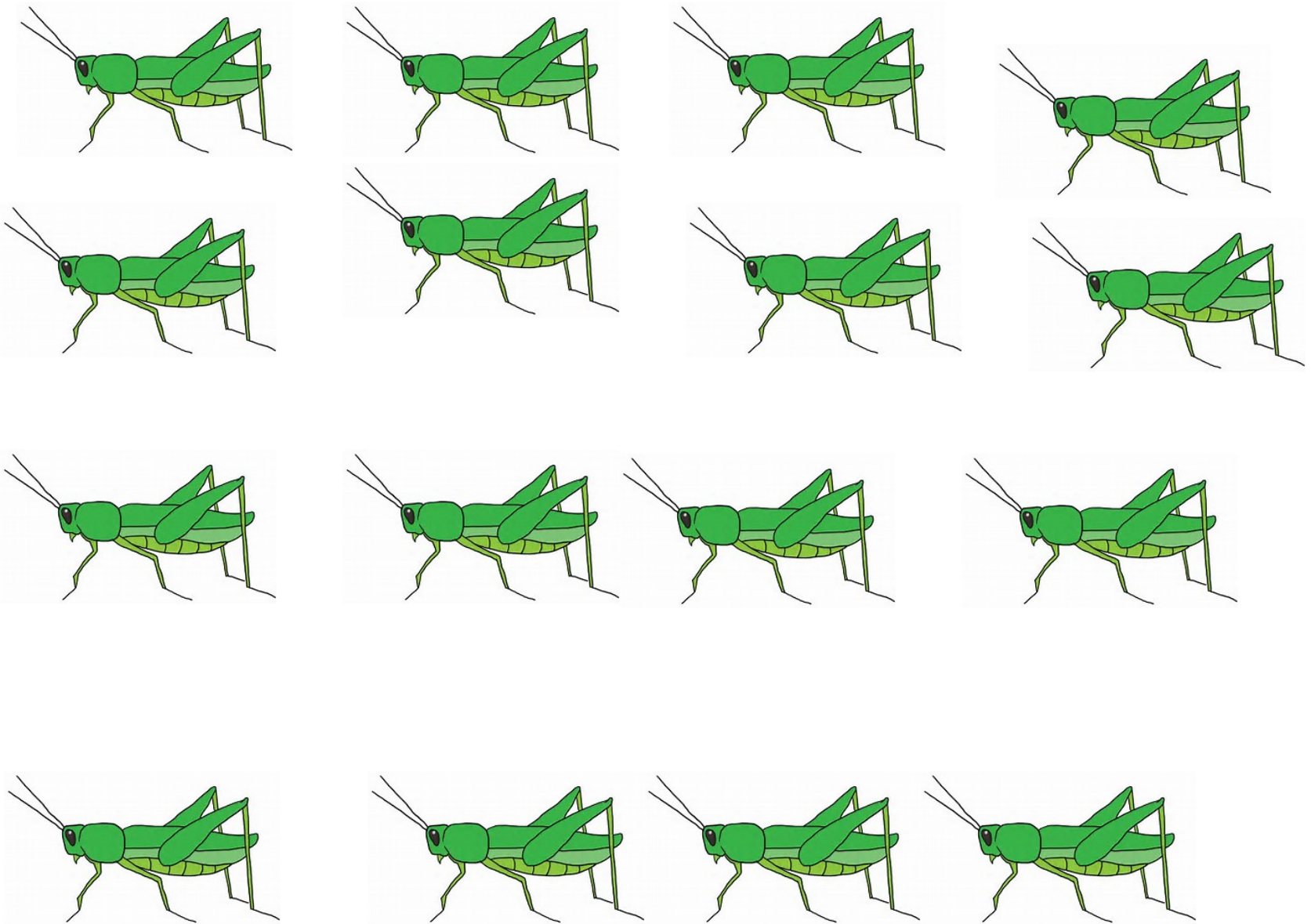
Jump like a grasshopper
to find some grass
around your house!



Can you find the
paper grasshoppers
in the grains?

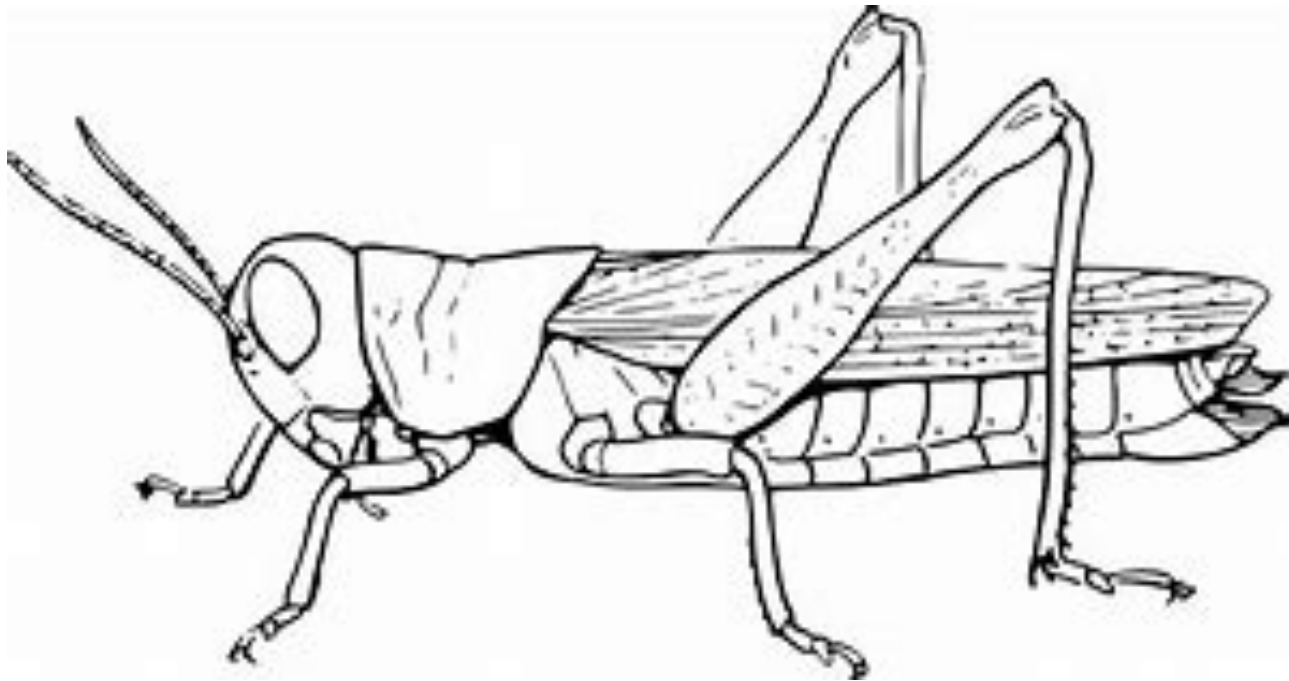


Grasshoppers to hide in the grains for the Find Your Grasshopper Game



Grasshoppers to hide in the grains for the Find Your Grasshopper Game

You can design a grasshopper! Now find grass and leaves to hide your grasshopper!





What are your
favorite grass foods?
Let's eat grass!

You can make a mini-book!

- Fold the paper in half
- Then in half again.

