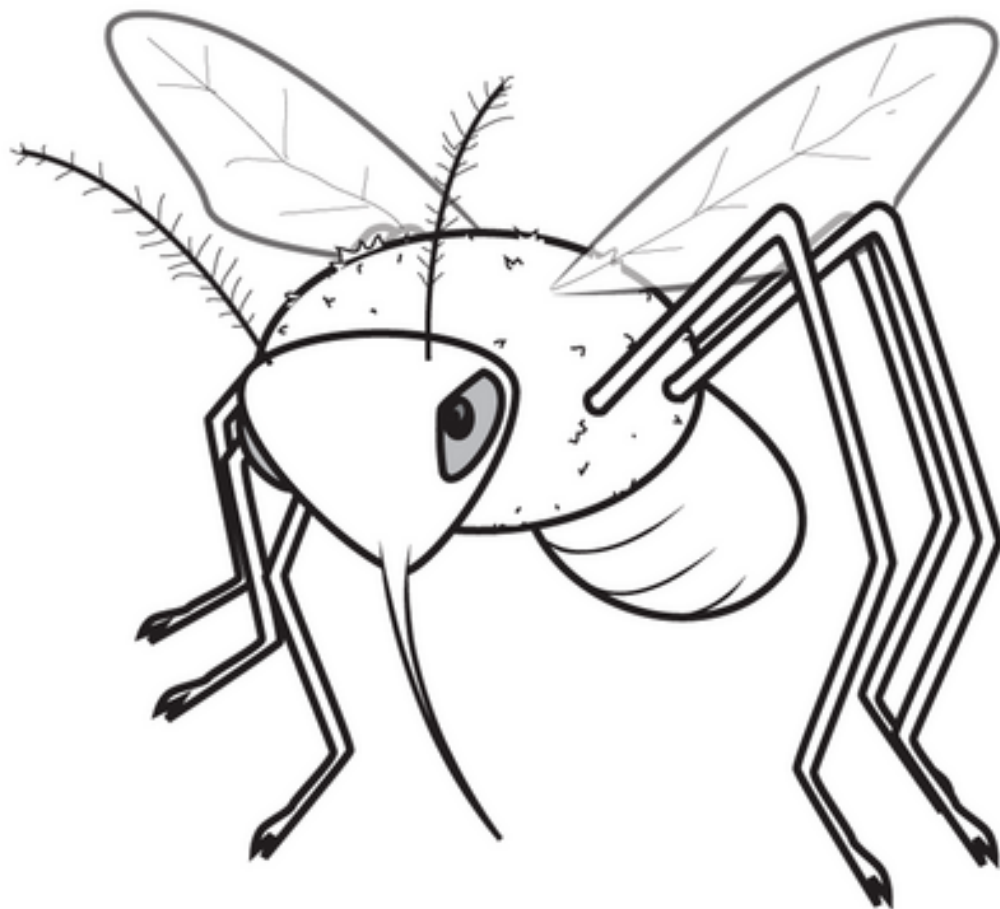
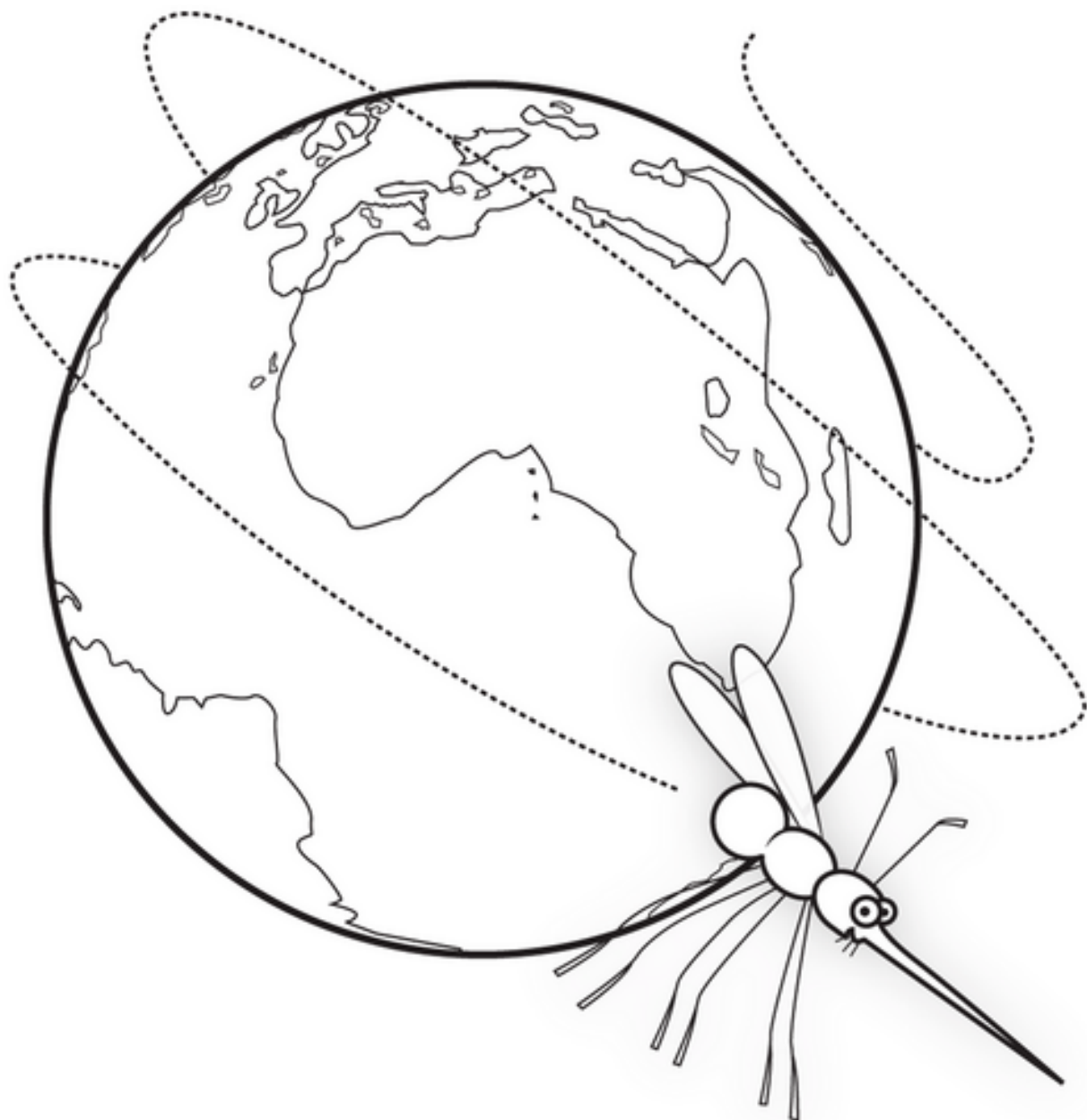


# The Insect Vampire: Mosquito

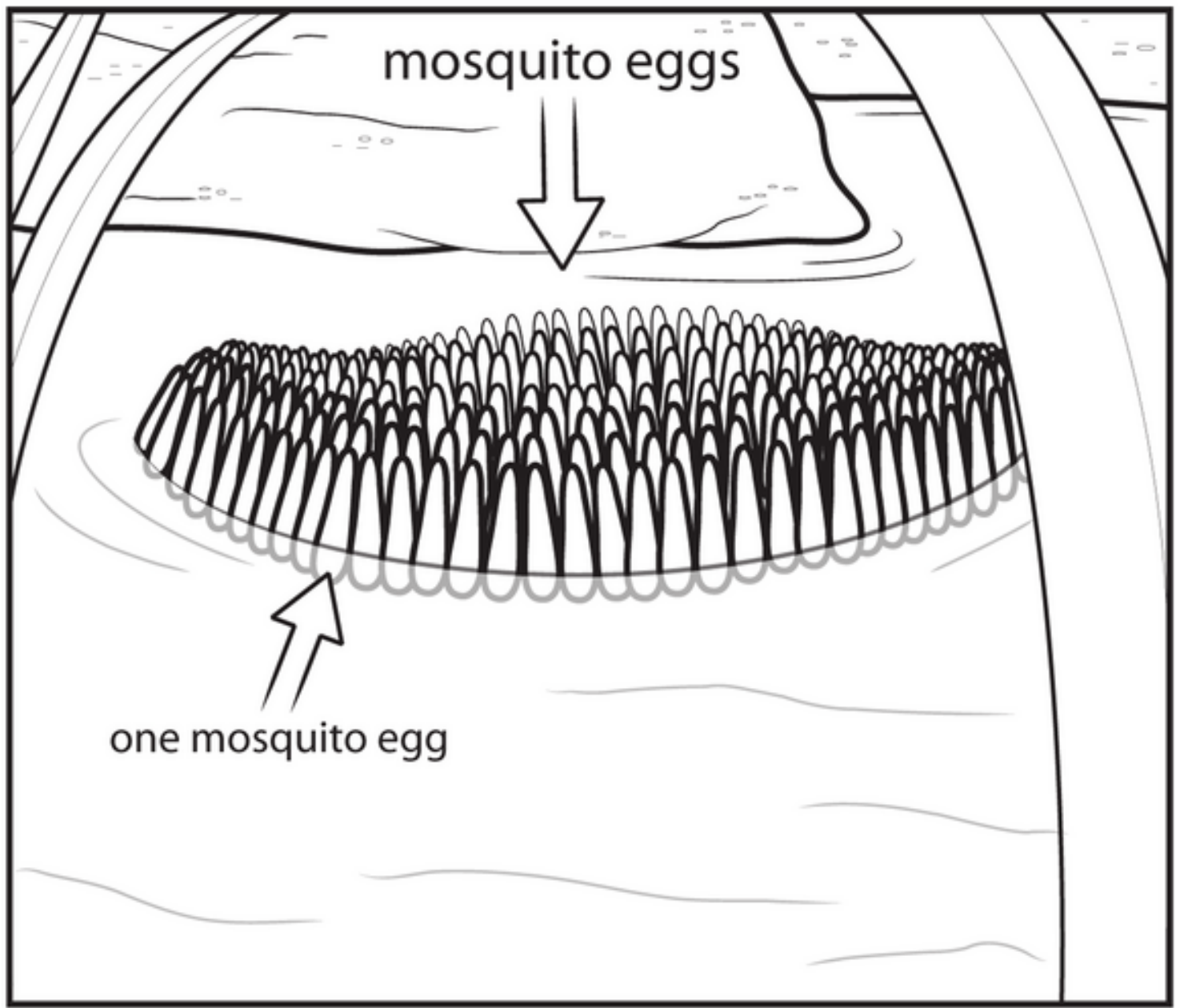




Approximately 3,500 species of mosquitoes exist on the Earth worldwide.

These insects can transmit disease, a fact that cannot be denied.

Because mosquitoes carry serious diseases, as you may have guessed, mosquitoes are on the list as one of the most disliked insect pests.

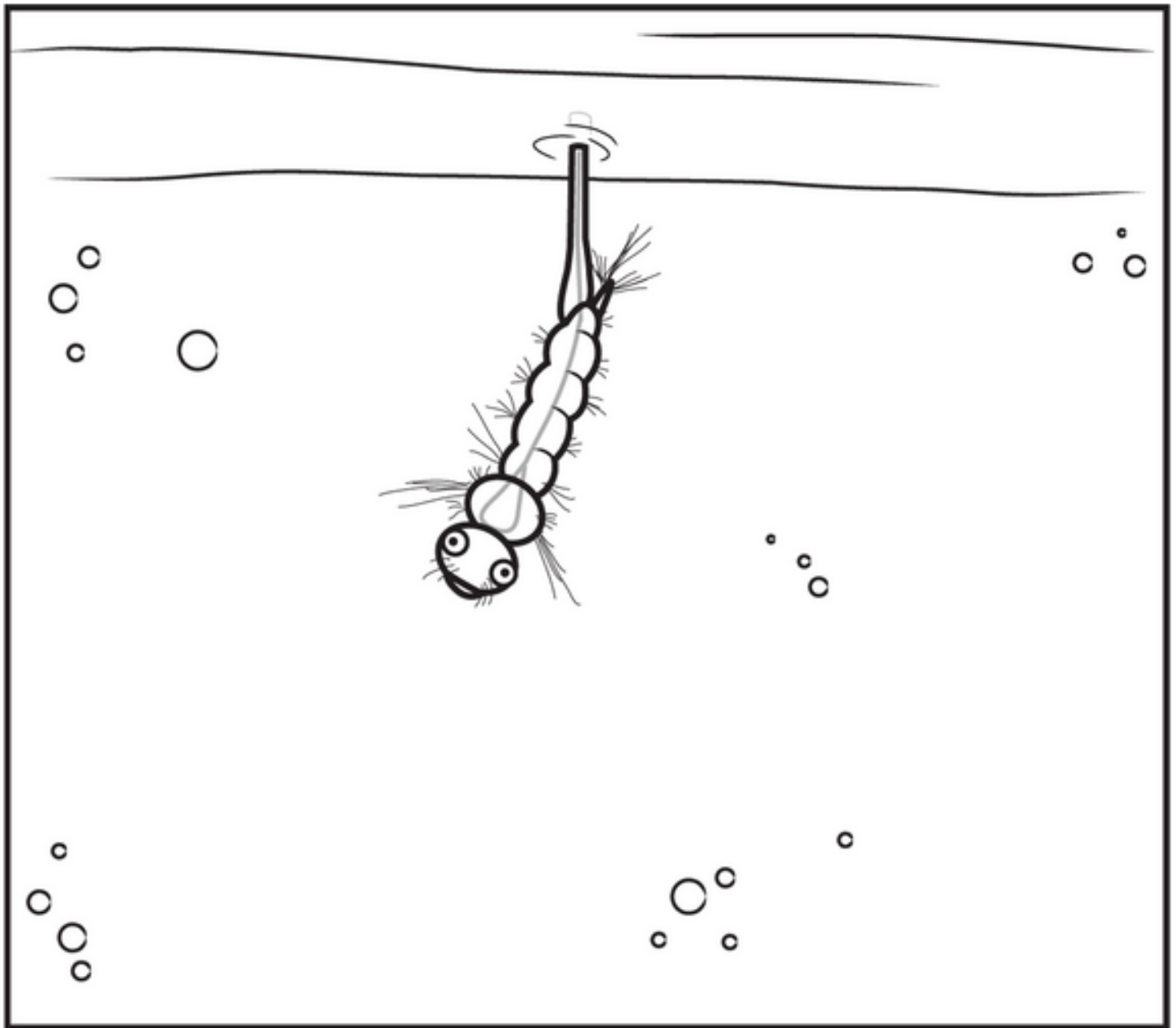


Like many other insects, mosquitoes must go through four stages.

They are experts at this process because they've lived on Earth for ages.

The first stage is when the mosquito's egg is laid on water, we are told.

They will hatch in just a few days. It takes longer when it's cold.

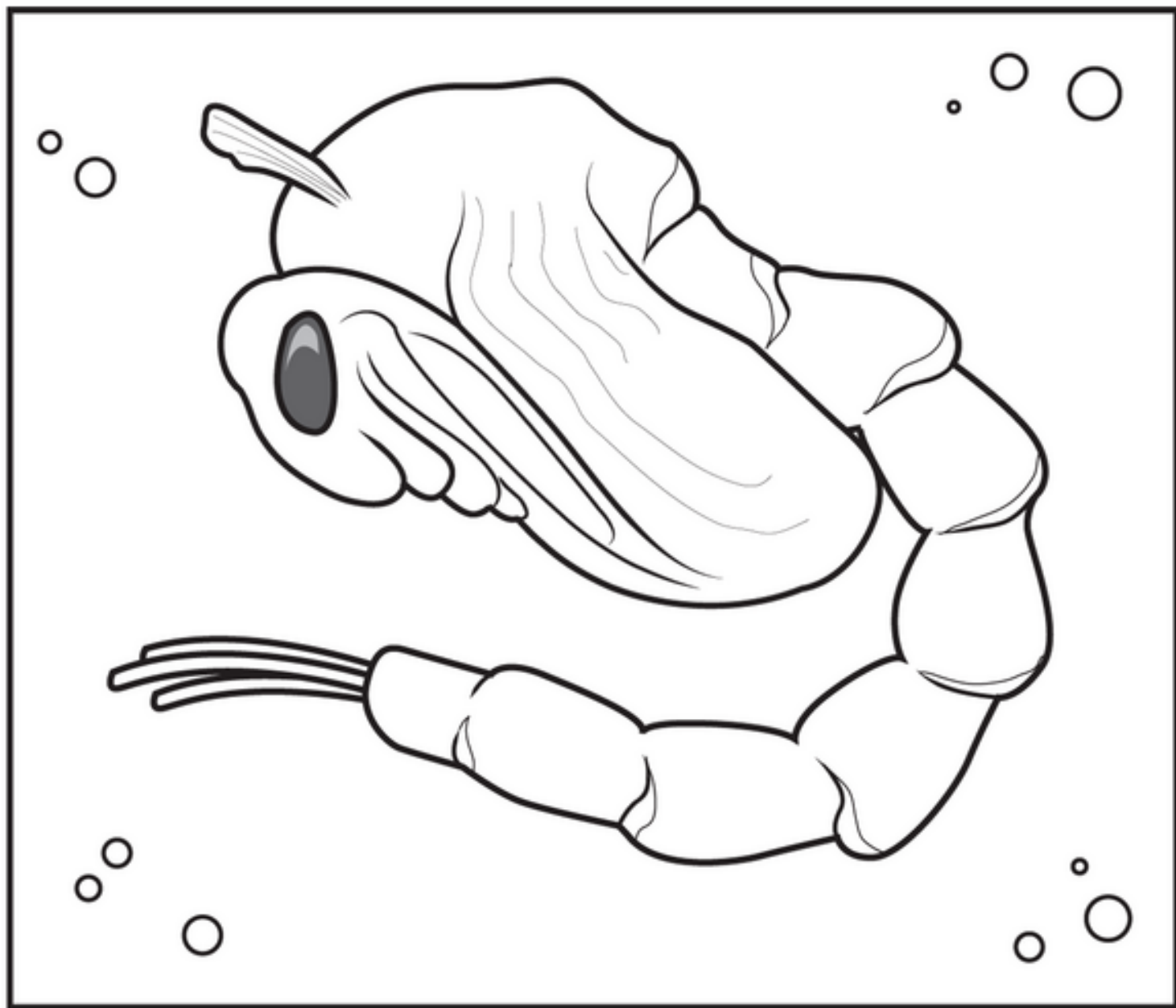


The second stage is the larva phase. They are called wigglers in this stage.

They feed on organic matter in the water while the tiny larvae age.

They breathe through tubes like snorkels and that's how they get their air.

The larva molts four times before it's done with this affair.

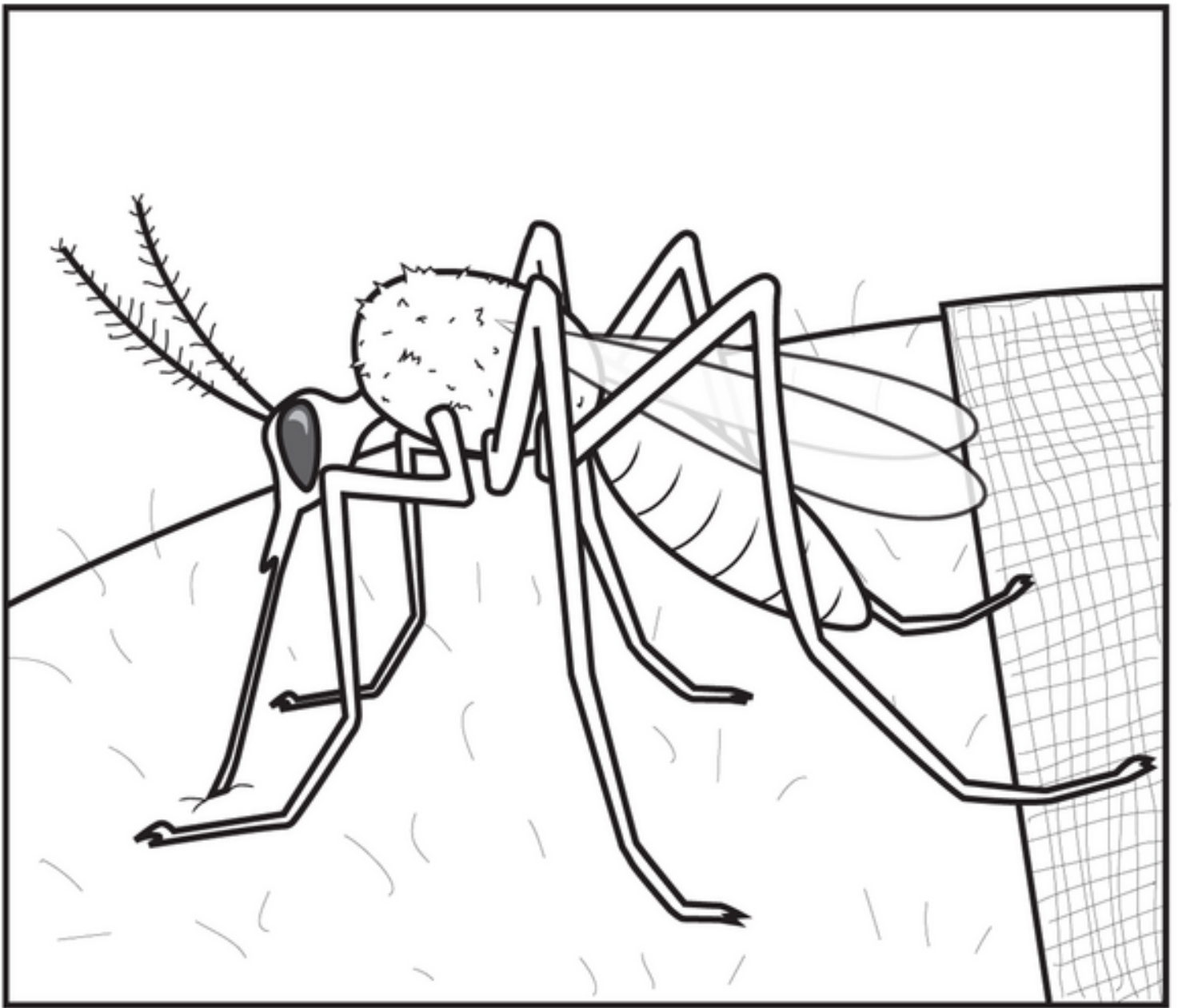


The pupa phase is comma-shaped when it's viewed from the side.

After a few days as a pupa, the structure splits, and an adult insect is spied.

Mosquitoes have three sections to their bodies like other insects do.

They have a mouth that's used for feeding, but mosquitoes do not chew.

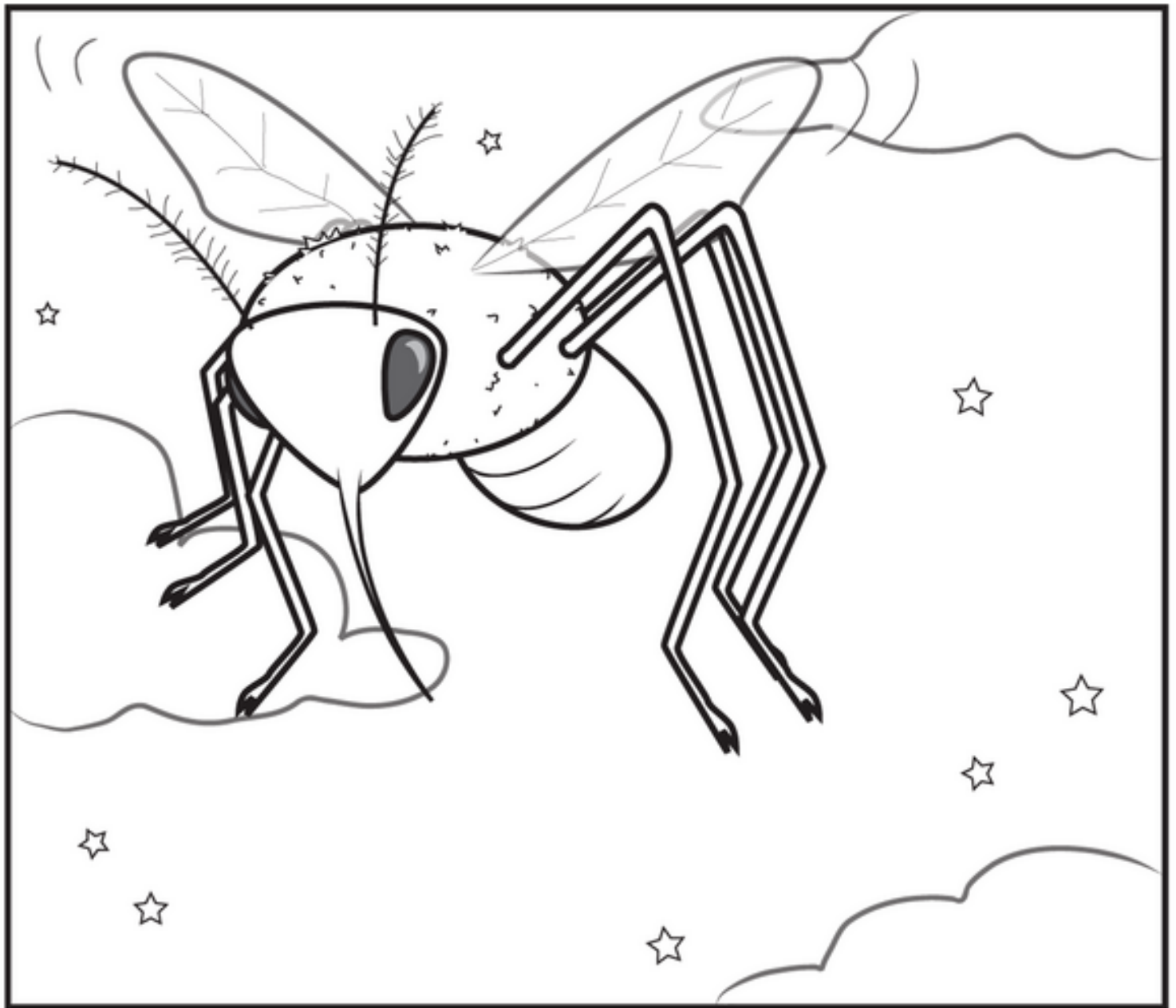


Mosquitoes have a proboscis that they used to suck their meal.

On their head are two antennae that are used to smell, not feel.

It seems female mosquitoes are the only ones that will bite.

They search out blood to feed their unborn eggs as they fly in the twilight.

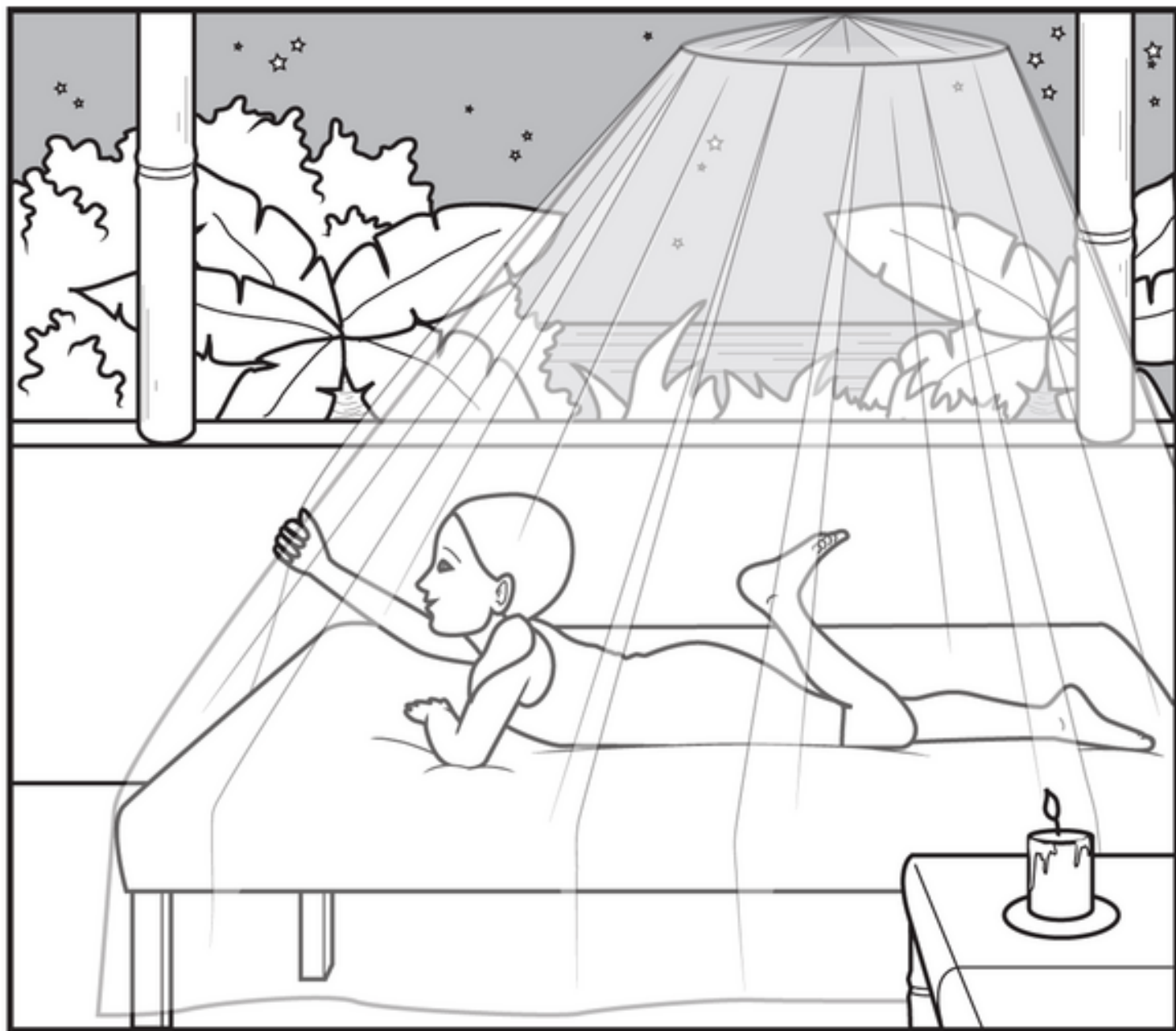


The female continues her search for blood until she gets her fill.

She rests a few days, lays her eggs, and then she repeats the drill.

A mosquito can travel a mile or more in search of its next meal.

Most people who get mosquito bites will most often quickly heal.



Mosquito bites can be dangerous because of the diseases they can spread. Some of them are so serious that a victim could even end up dead. Malaria and yellow fever are some diseases mosquitoes carry. If you travel to exotic places where mosquitoes live, you should be very wary.





So always wear repellent when you're outdoors  
or on a hike.

If you take proper precautions, you can go  
anywhere you like.

Mosquitoes are part of nature, although their  
bites cause irritation.

A mosquito, whether bad or good, is part of  
God's creation.

1. About how many types of mosquitoes exist worldwide?

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2. Mosquitoes go through how many stages of life?

- a. one
- b. two
- c. three
- d. four

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

3. What is the third stage in a mosquito's life?

- a. egg
- b. larvae
- c. pupa
- d. adult

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Which of these illnesses can you get from a mosquito bite?

- a. mumps
- b. malaria
- c. measles
- d. smallpox

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

5. What type of mosquito bites people?

- a. an adult male
- b. a dwarf mosquito
- c. a pupae
- d. an adult female

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

6. You should always wear what when you go hiking?

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