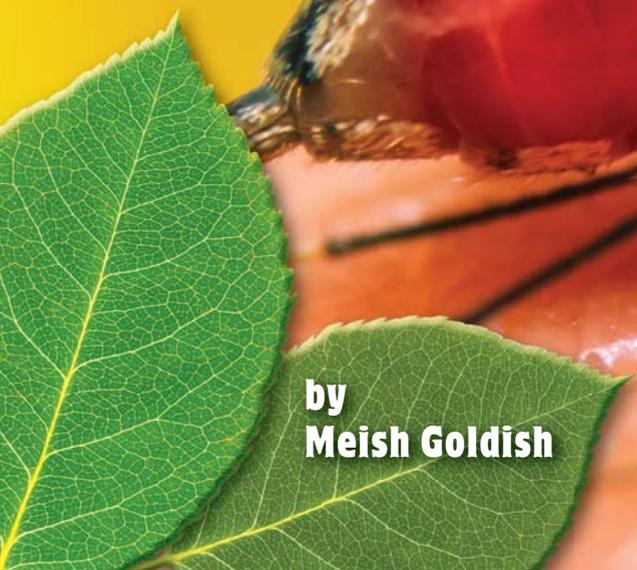


**No
Backbone!**
The World of Invertebrates

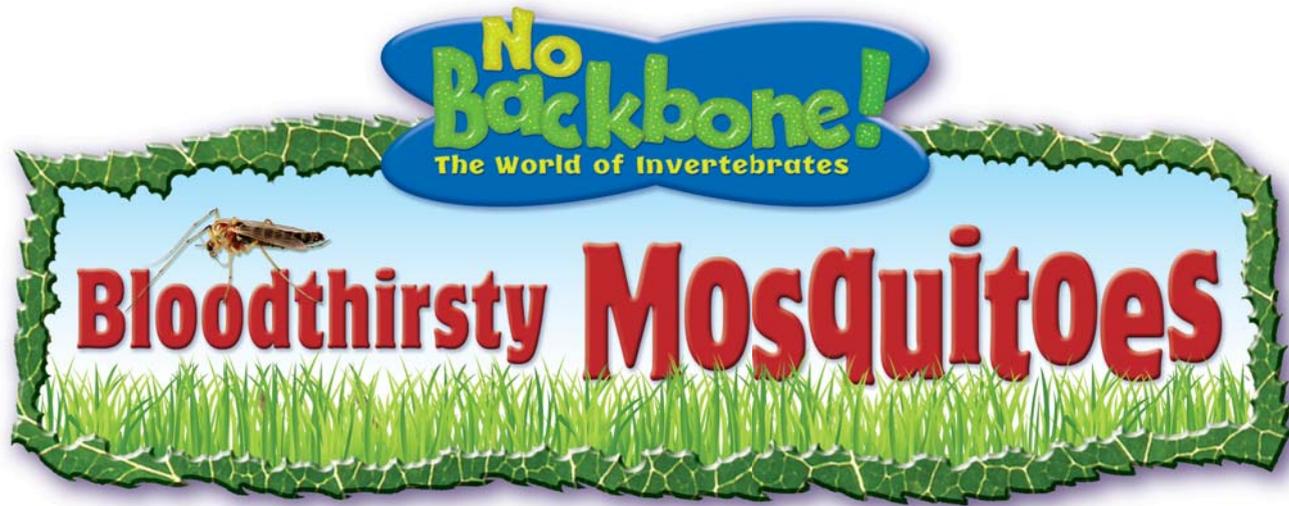


Bloodthirsty Mosquitoes



by
Meish Goldish

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Little Flies

Mosquitoes are tiny **insects**.

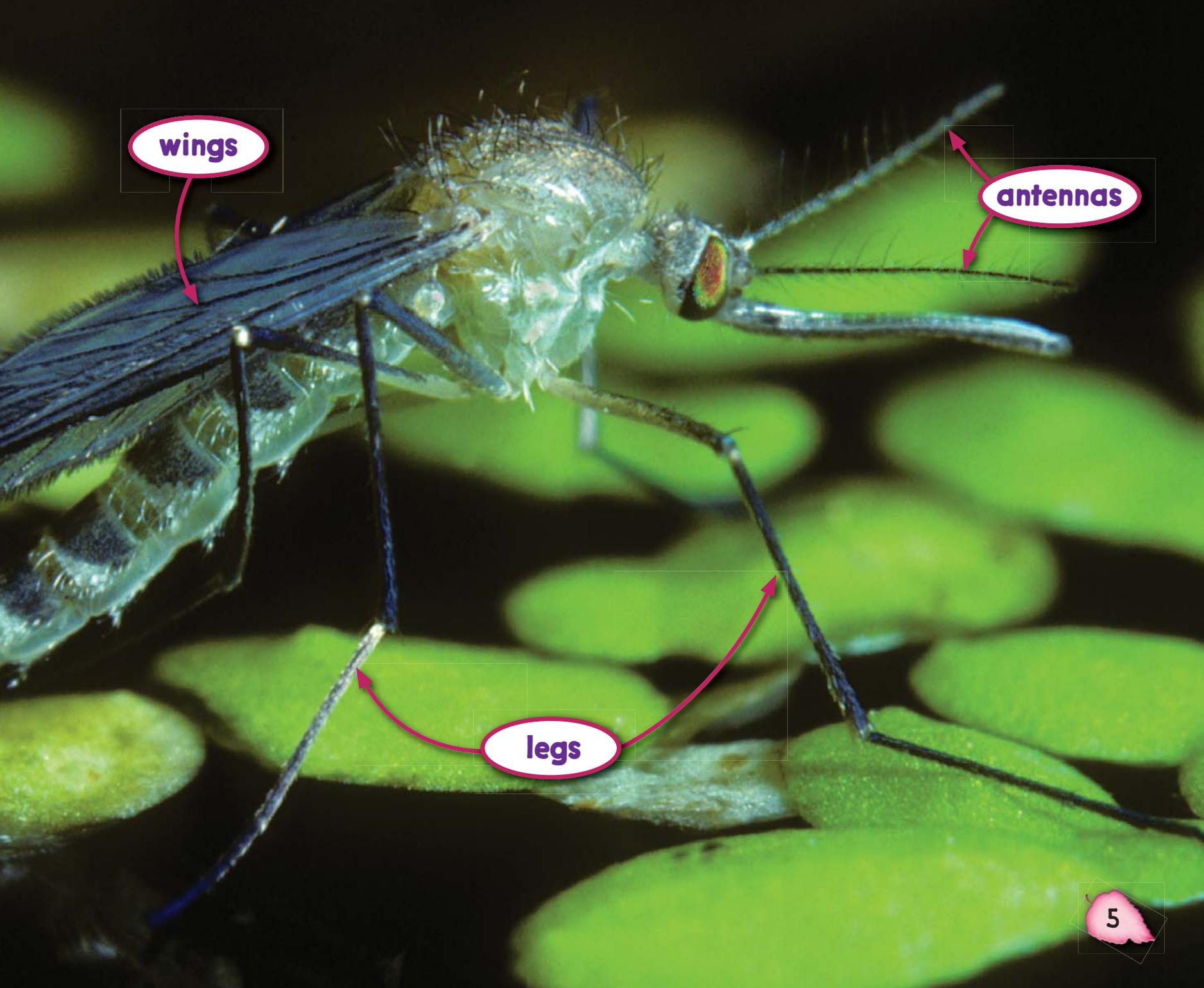
They belong to the same group of insects as flies.

Like all flies, mosquitoes have two wings, two antennas, and six legs.

They also have a hard covering called an exoskeleton on the outside of their bodies.

The exoskeleton protects the soft parts of a mosquito's body.

The word *mosquito* comes from Spanish. It means "little fly."



wings

antennas

legs

Thirsty for Food

Both male and female mosquitoes have a long, thin **beak** on their heads.

They use the beak to suck a sweet liquid called nectar from flowers.

Females also use it to poke a hole in the skin of animals and suck their blood.

They need the blood to make eggs inside their bodies.



Some people call mosquitoes the vampires of the insect world.



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Read More

Bailey, Jill. *Mosquito*. Chicago: Heinemann (1998).

Kalman, Bobbie. *The Life Cycle of a Mosquito*. New York: Crabtree Publishing (2004).

Learn More Online

To learn more about mosquitoes, visit

www.bearportpublishing.com/NoBackbone-Insects

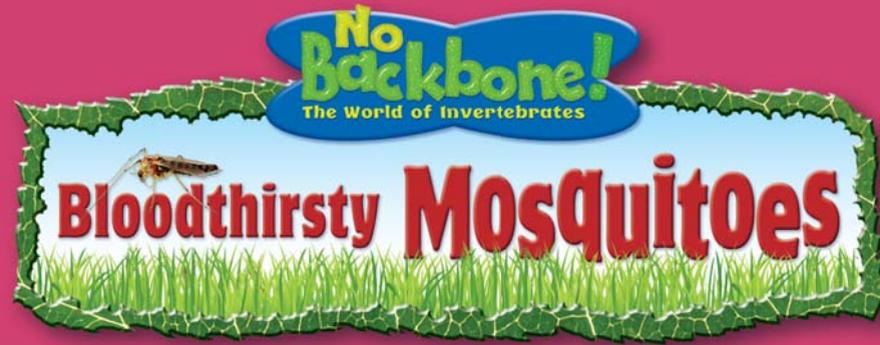


About the Author

Meish Goldish has written more than 100 books for children.

He lives in Brooklyn, New York.

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Why do female mosquitoes drink people's blood?

They need it to make eggs inside their bodies.

**Look inside to discover more fascinating facts
about these bloodsucking creatures.**

Beautiful Butterflies

Bloodthirsty Mosquitoes

Deadly Praying Mantises

Helpful Ladybugs

Hidden Walkingsticks

Hungry Cockroaches

Killer Bees

Leaping Grasshoppers

Smelly Stink Bugs

Speedy Dragonflies

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