



**DESERT  
ANIMALS**  
Searchin'  
for Shade

# Bark Scorpion

by Meish Goldish

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by Meish Goldish

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# Behind the Bark

It is a hot, dry afternoon in the desert.

A bark scorpion rests in a tree.

It hides under the tree bark to keep out of the burning sun.

During the day, the temperature can climb to 120°F (49°C).

Yet the scorpion stays cool in the shade of the bark.





tree bark

Adult  
bark scorpions  
can be up to  
3 inches (7.6 cm)  
long.

bark scorpion



# Made for the Desert

The bark scorpion lives in the Sonoran Desert—one of the hottest deserts in North America.

The small creature is **cold-blooded**.

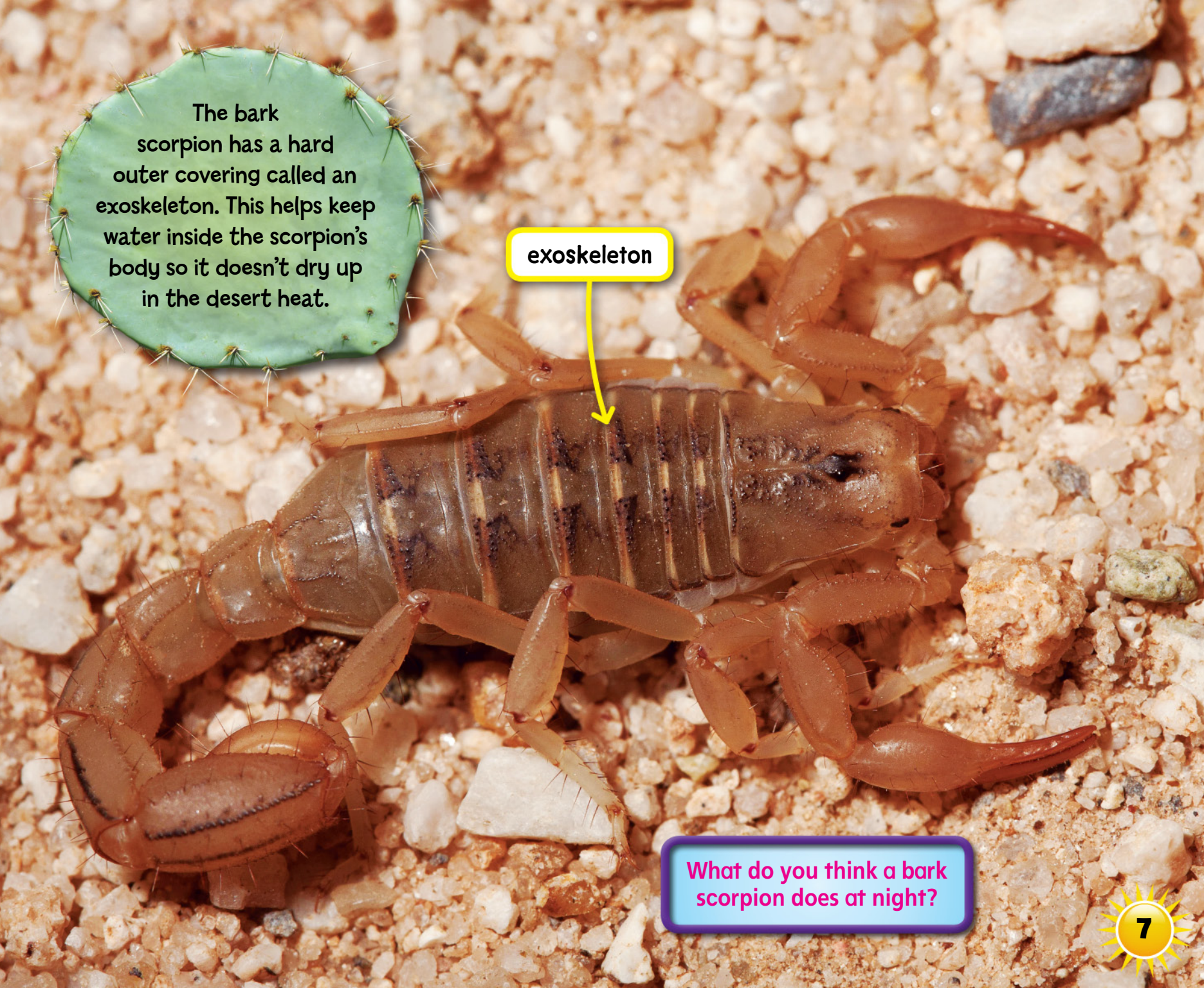
Its body temperature changes with the temperature of its surroundings.

To keep from overheating, the scorpion stays in a shady spot while the sun is out.

If its body becomes too hot, it will die.







The bark scorpion has a hard outer covering called an exoskeleton. This helps keep water inside the scorpion's body so it doesn't dry up in the desert heat.

exoskeleton

What do you think a bark scorpion does at night?



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## Learn More Online

To learn more about bark scorpions, visit [www.bearportpublishing.com/DesertAnimals](http://www.bearportpublishing.com/DesertAnimals)

## About the Author

Meish Goldish has written more than 200 books for children. His book *Surf Dog Miracles* was a Children's Choices Selection in 2014. He lives in Brooklyn, New York, about 2,500 miles (4,023 km) from the Sonoran Desert.



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# Bark Scorpion

The sun shines on the hot desert sand. Meanwhile, a small animal with claw-like pincers and a curved tail hides under some tree bark. After the sun sets and the air cools, the creature—a bark scorpion—leaves its hideout and starts to hunt for prey. Welcome to life in the desert!

Look inside to learn all about this intriguing desert dweller, including where the bark scorpion lives, what it eats, and how it survives in its hot, dry home.

**Bark Scorpion**

**Bobcat**

**Camel**

**Collared Lizard**

**Roadrunner**

**Sidewinder**

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