

Key to common leaf litter invertebrates

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|---|--------------------------|
| 1a. No legs... | 2 |
| 1b. With legs... | 5 |
| 2a. Eye stalks and tentacles present | Snail/slug (Gastropoda) |
| 2b. No eyes stalks or tentacles... | 3 |
| 3a. With obvious head and mouthparts... | Fly larvae (Diptera) |
| 3b. Without obvious head and mouthparts... | 4 |
| 4a. Body with no segments; small, usually white... | Nematodes (Nematoda) |
| 4b. Body with segments; large | Earthworm (Oligochaeta) |
| 5a. More than 6 legs... | 6 |
| 5b. 6 legs (=Hexapoda)... | 12 |
| 6a. 8 legs (=Arachnida)... | 7 |
| 6b. Many legs... | 10 |
| 7a. Body with no segments... | 8 |
| 7b. Body with segments... | 9 |
| 8a. With 1 body part... | Mites/ticks (Acari) |
| 8b. With 2 obvious body parts; with fangs... | Spiders (Araneae) |
| 9a. With pincers... | Pseudoscorpions |
| 9b. No pincers; with palps... | Harvestmen (Opiliones) |
| 10a. 7 pairs of legs... | Pill bugs (Isopoda) |
| 10b. More than 7 pairs (=Myriapoda)... | 11 |
| 11a. 1 pair of legs per segment, fangs... | Centipede (Chilopoda) |
| 11b. 2 pairs of legs per segment... | Millipedes (Diplopoda) |
| 12a. No wings; small, generally white, brown, grey... | Springtails (Collembola) |
| 12b. 3 body parts; some with wings... | Insects (Insecta) |

Latin roots

-chaeta = bristle
chilo- = lip
di- = two
diplo- = double
gastro- = stomach
hexa- = six
iso- = like
myria- = many

nemat- = thread
-oda = like
oligo- = few
opilio = shepard
-pod = foot
pseudo- = false
-ptera= wings