

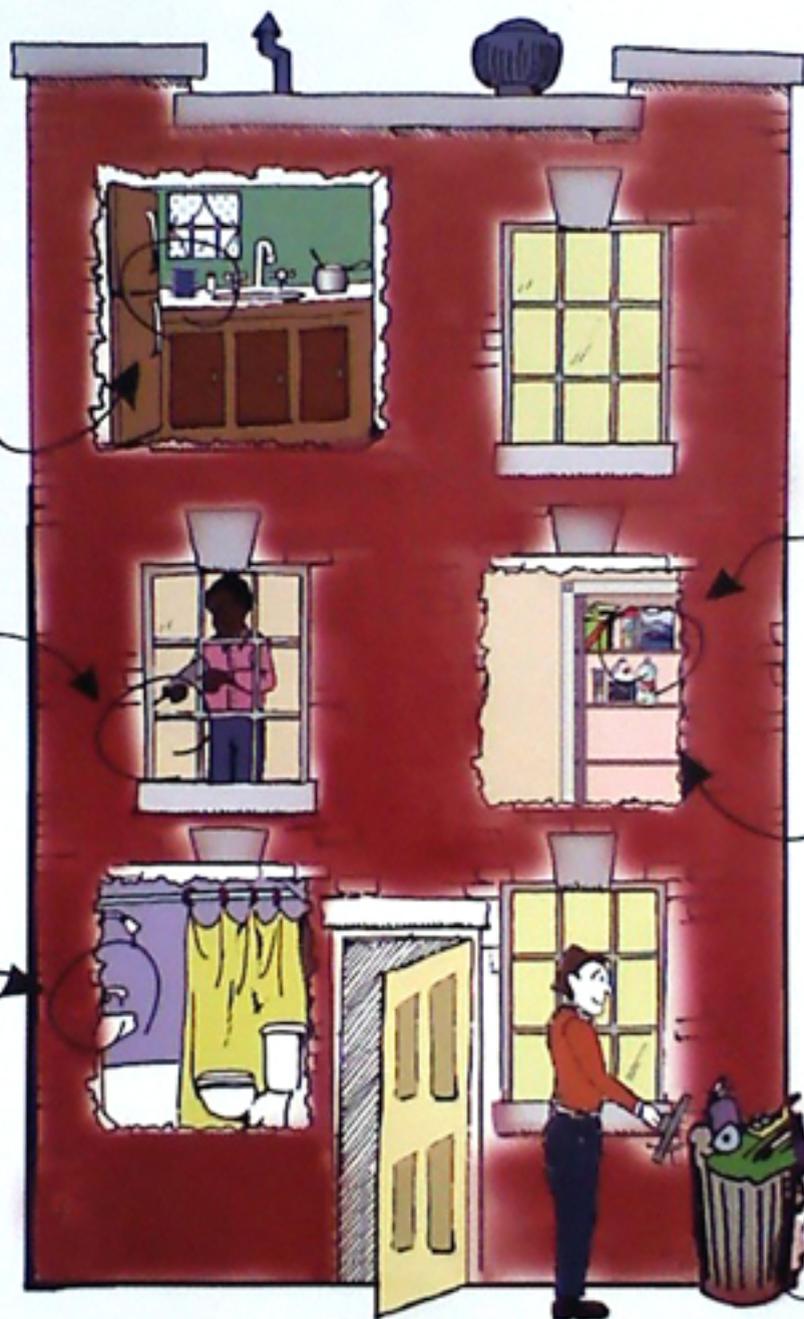
HOME SAFE HOME

OUTSMART PESTS

Don't invite pests to dinner - clean your dishes right away.

Repair screens, close openings where pests can enter, caulk hiding places such as baseboards & cabinet edges.

Wipe up spills & fix leaks.



USE PESTICIDES SAFELY

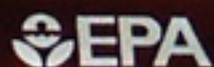
Read the label on all pesticides and follow the directions.

Keep pesticides in their original containers.

Store pesticide containers so children and pets cannot reach them.

Never use outdoor pesticides inside the home.

Pests need food, water & shelter. Remove these to reduce pest problems. For more information, visit us at www.epa.gov/pesticides



National Pesticide Telecommunications Network

1-800-858-7378

What Is A Pesticide?

A pesticide is a chemical used to prevent, destroy, or repel pests. Pests can be insects, mice and other animals, weeds, fungi, or microorganisms such as bacteria and viruses. Some examples of pests are termites causing damage to our homes, dandelions in the lawn, and fleas on our dogs and cats. Pesticides also are used to kill organisms that can cause diseases.

Most pesticides contain chemicals that can be harmful to people, animals, or the environment. For this reason the Office of Pesticide Programs of the Environmental Protection Agency regulates pesticides in the United States to protect public health and the environment.

Here are some examples of pesticide products we use in our homes:

- Cockroach sprays and baits
- Mosquito sprays
- Rat poisons
- Flea and tick sprays, powders, and pet collars.

Did you know that these common products are considered pesticides?

- Cleaners used to disinfect the kitchen floor.
- Cleaning products used to remove the mildew on bathroom tiles.
- Household plant sprays.
- Lawn and garden products to kill insects and weeds.
- Some swimming pool chemicals.

These are some common types of pesticides, and their purposes, used in our homes:

Algicides	Control algae in swimming pools and water tanks.
Antimicrobials	Kill microorganisms (such as bacteria and viruses).
Attractants	Attractants are traps containing a pesticide and food to lure insects or rodents inside. However, food is not a pesticide even though it certainly attracts pests...like ants at a picnic.
Disinfectants and sanitizers	Kill disease-producing microorganisms in the kitchen and bathroom.
Fumigants	Produce gas or vapor intended to destroy pests in the house or in the ground.
Fungicides	Kill fungi (including blights , mildews , molds , and rusts).
Herbicides	Kill weeds.
Insecticides	Kill insects and other arthropods .
Miticides	Kill mites that feed on plants and animals.
Microbial pesticides	Microorganisms that kill or inhibit pests, including insects or other microorganisms. Sometimes microorganisms get rid of pests simply by growing larger in numbers, using up the pests' food supply, and invading the pests' environment.
Molluscicides	Kill snails and slugs.
Nematicides	Kill nematodes (microscopic, worm-like organisms that feed on plant roots).
Pheromones	Biochemicals used to disrupt the mating behavior of insects.
Repellents	Repel pests, including insects (such as mosquitoes) and birds.
Rodenticides	Control mice and other rodents.

The clues to solve these puzzles are contained in the facts below. Read the facts, then try a puzzle.

Anti-Freeze	Did you know... that anti-freeze works by changing the temperature at which the water in your car radiator boils and freezes? Car owners should be careful that anti-freeze does not leak from their car. Anti-freeze is a neon-greenish color, and it smells and tastes like sugar water. Animals are drawn to it, and they will die if they eat even just a small amount because it is very poisonous.
Bacteria	Did you know... that some bacteria are also pesticides? The bacteria <i>Bacillus popilliae</i> causes milky spore disease. "Milky Spore" is a selective insecticide. Selective because it kills only certain types of beetles. These are Japanese beetles, Oriental beetles, Rose chafers and certain May and June beetles.
Bacteriostat	Did you know... that some common household items such as sponges and cutting boards contain bacteriostats? Even some plastic toys for small children contain bacteriostats. Bacteriostats are pesticides that make it hard for bacteria to grow. They help to cut down on the spread of bacteria that may be harmful from one object to another. Bacteriostats belong to a class of pesticides called antimicrobial pesticides.
Chemical	Did you know... that elements (like carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, etc.) bond together to make a chemical? (one "unit" is called a molecule). At present there are 110 named elements, but there are thousands and thousands of chemicals.
Detergent	Did you know... that detergents make water "wetter?" A detergent is made up of large molecules with one end that is attracted to "oily" substances and the other end attracted to water. This structure breaks the "surface tension" which can be thought of as the top layer of water or the skin. The detergent molecules will surround the dirt and keep it suspended in the water as it flows down the drain.
Disinfectant	Do you know... which room of your house is the most likely place to find lots of bacteria? It's the kitchen. Why? Because of all the bacteria that can grow on things like wet sponges, food drippings, drink spills, dish towels and on cutting boards or surfaces. That's why many kitchen cleaners contain disinfectants. Bacteria may also be spread from one food to another. Bacteria from raw meats, for example, may be spread from your hands, knives or cutting boards that come in contact with the raw meats and are then used to prepare other foods. You can prevent spreading bacteria by washing these items in hot soapy water after each use.
Insecticide	Do you know... the Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines this word as "an agent that destroys insects." It was included into the International Scientific Vocabulary in 1865. So where did this word come from? The use of the English word "insect" was recorded in 1601. It comes from the Latin <i>insectum</i> , from neuter of <i>insectus</i> , past participle of <i>insecare</i> to cut into. The other part of the word "cide" comes from Middle French, from Latin <i>-cida</i> , from <i>caedere</i> to cut, kill. Even words and their definitions have histories. Factoid: There are over 2 thousand insecticide products registered for <i>outdoor</i> residential use by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pesticide Programs. But over 4 thousand insecticide products are registered for <i>indoor</i> residential use.
Ladybugs	Did you know... that ladybugs are considered "beneficial insects"? They are called beneficial because they eat other insects that destroy plants like aphids, mealybugs, whiteflies and mites. Other "beneficial insects" include spiders, centipedes dragon flies and ground beetles. You can even buy these insects through some gardening catalogs!
Paint	Did you know... you can make your own paint? You can use crushed chalk as the "pigment" (the colored part) and glue as the "vehicle" (the liquid part). Please make sure you use a non-toxic glue.
Pyrethrum	Did you know... that certain types of flowers contain a natural insecticide? Insecticides called pyrethrums are made from the flower plant <i>Chrysanthemum cinerariaefolium</i> . This plant is also called daisy flowers. It was first discovered because of its use by African tribal peoples to control insect pests. Man-made or synthetic insecticides called pyrethroids control insects in a way much like the natural pyrethrum insecticides do.
Synthetic	Did you know... that chemicals that are not produced by life or in a natural process like weathering, are called synthetic. Synthetic usually means man-made. There are tens of thousands of man-made chemicals. Over 1,000 new ones are created each year.
Toxic	Did you know... that toxics can be natural or man-made? If the substance is man-made, it's referred to as a toxicant but if it's natural, it's called a toxin.

"Did you know...?" Wordscramble

Unscramble the words. There is a clue for each.
Then use the numbered letters to solve the message below.

ZETRENFEAI (clue: A chemical that changes the freezing temperature of water.)
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
7

CABREITA (clue: This type of organism can be a "selective insecticide".)
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
5

TEABARCITTSO (clue: A type of pesticide contained in kitchen items like sponges.)
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
10

CIACEMHLS (clue: All household products are made of these.)
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
2 12

REEGETNTD (clue: Contains molecules that are attracted to "oily" substances.)
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
11

TICNNEATISFD (clue: Type of pesticide commonly used in kitchens and bathrooms.)
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
10 13 3

CISNEDTICIE (clue: A word that means "an agent that destroys insects".)
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
4

LUBGYASD (clue: A "beneficial insect".)
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
8

TAPNI (clue: A chemical you can buy in many different colors.)
[] [] [] [] [] []
9

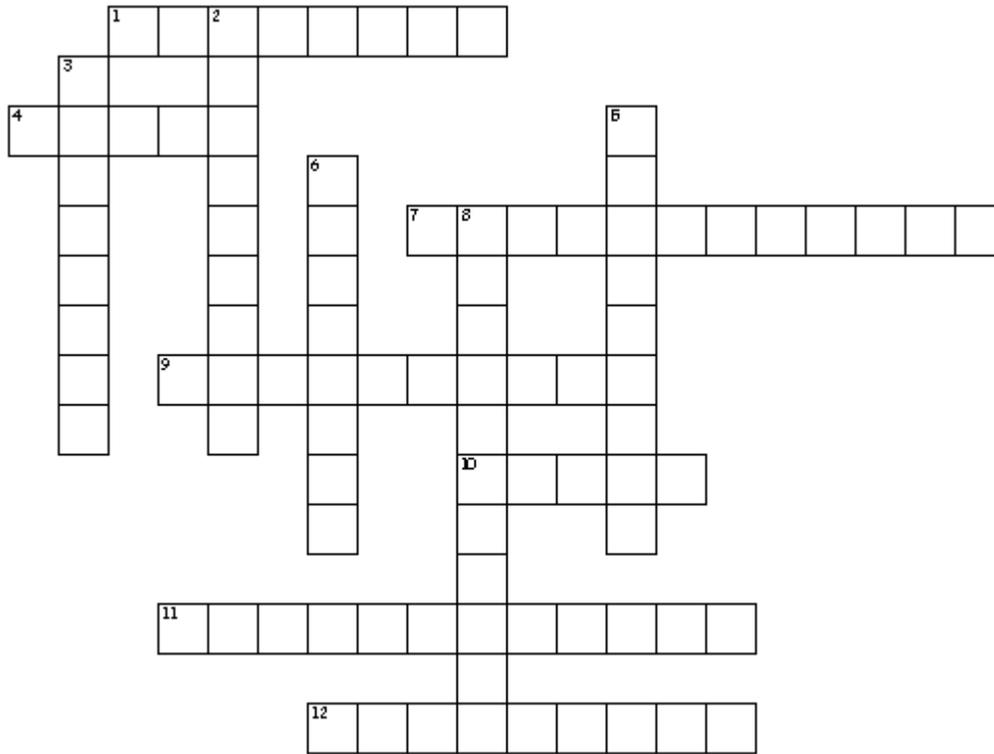
IYRHURPEM (clue: A natural pesticide found in chrysanthemum flowers.)
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
1 15

NITTYSCEH (clue: A term that means "man made".)
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
6

TOCXI (clue: Term used to identify chemicals that are harmful to your health.)
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
17 14

Always... [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

A Crossword Puzzle from "Did you know...?" Facts



Across

1. The name of a "beneficial insect".
4. Contains a pigment. Commonly used on the walls in your house.
7. A type of household product that kills bacteria.
9. A chemical used to change the freezing temperature of water.
10. Generic name for a chemical that is harmful to your health. Some are man-made, others occur in nature.
11. A type of chemical that makes it hard for bacteria to grow.
12. A natural pesticide that was discovered by African tribal people.

Down

2. A household product that works by "surrounding dirt".
3. An organism that is also a pesticide.
5. The term used to describe chemicals not made by natural processes.
6. The name of a substance composed of carbon, oxygen, hydrogen.
8. Term used to describe chemicals that kill insects.

Find the Household Products AND the Secret Message

P C H L O R I N E E N C L
A E R E A D I G Z C H E M
L P S Q F C D E K E B O L
G O Y T T O E C M A T V H
I L T O I R G I L H C C R
C I Y S F C C G B A A P E
I S O I R A I A E E T A P
D H T I L I L D L R H I E
E N A S L L F B E N E N L
A I B Q S B A I T S B T L
T N A T C E F N I S I D A
T N E G R E T E D T U P N
Y C S R E N A E L C W C T

algicide	chemicals	disinfectant	paint
antifreeze	chlorine	fogger	pesticide
baits	cleaners	mothballs	polish
bleach	detergent	oil	repellant

What is something you should always do before using any household product?
Write your answer on the line below and then find this secret message in the wordsearch.
