

Name: _____ Date: _____

Unusual Animals: Cyphonia Clavatta (Tree hopper)

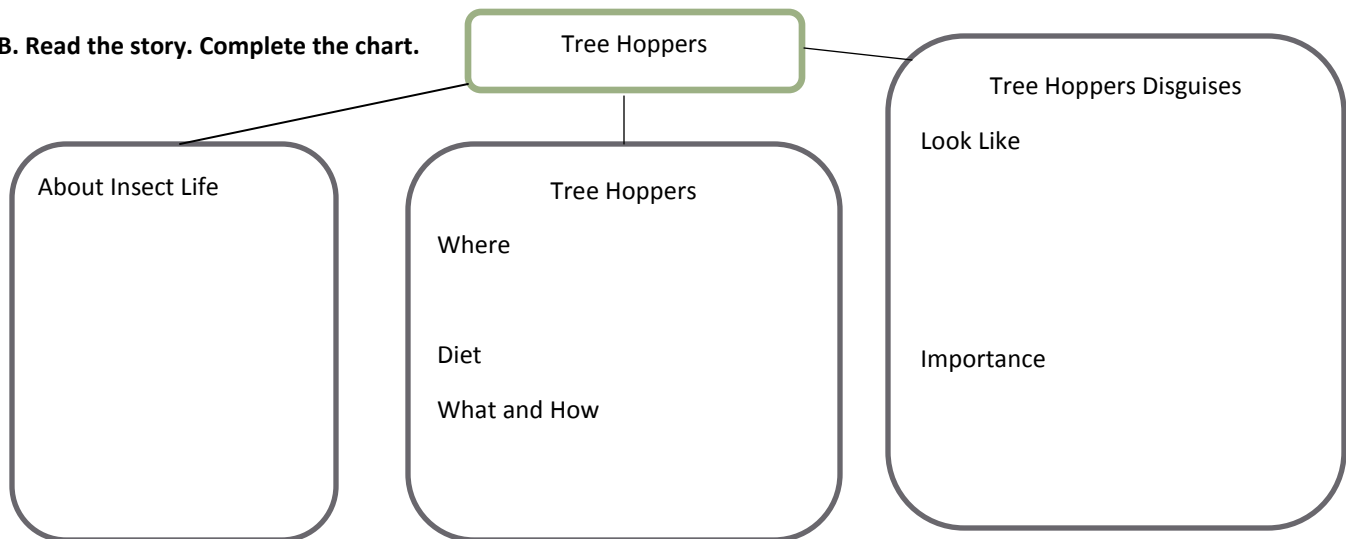


Some people don't like bugs and insects. People think of them as creepy and crawly. However, insects are very important. Many animals depend on insects for food. In fact, insects have a very hard life. There is always something that wants to eat an insect. Some insects protect themselves by using interesting colors or shapes. One insect has gone even further. It wears a kind of custom to protect itself. It's the Cyphonia Clavatta, a kind of tree hopper.

There are many different kinds of tree hoppers. They live all over the world. They can be found any place where you see trees growing. Tree hoppers have a kind of horn. It helps the tree hopper dig into a tree to eat the liquid sap. What makes the tree hopper interesting is how they camouflage, or disguise, themselves to hide from animals that want to eat them. Some tree hoppers grow shapes like leaves. Other grow thorns. The cyphonia clavatta has the ability to grow what looks like an ant. The ant-like shape covers the cyphonia clavatta protecting it from other insects. Using this ant costume helps to keep the cyphonia clavatta safe.

A. What country is the maned wolf from? _____

B. Read the story. Complete the chart.



C. There are many different kinds of tree hoppers. Use a computer. Which tree hopper do you think has the most interesting disguise? Write the name. Write the disguise. Tell a partner what you learned.