

TREEHOPPER

HEMIPTERA: MEMBRACIDAE



Did you know? Some treehoppers make a sugary fluid called honeydew for ants to eat. In return, the ants protect them.

Did you know? Treehoppers are known for having a big pronotum. Sometimes, it's shaped like a thorn to help them camouflage!

Did you know? While some animals communicate by making sounds that travel through the air, treehoppers can create vibrations in plants to talk to each other!

Did you know? Treehopper mouths are long, hollow tubes with a pointed end like a Capri Sun straw. They suck the juices out of plants to eat.

Look and see!



Treehopper pronotums come in a variety of shapes. They can even look like thorns!



Some mother treehoppers care for their babies!



Credits:

Photos: Lily Margeson, (<https://www.inaturalist.org/people/ieatfishfood>), Mexican Treehopper (*Membracis mexicana*) on a leaf; Ryan Hodnett (https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/User:Ryan_Hodnett), Two-marked Treehopper (*Enchenopa binotata*) on a stem; Thomas Shahan (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/49580580@N02/>), an Oak Treehopper (*Platycotis vittate*) adult and nymphs on a twig; Susan Ellis (<https://www.invasive.org/browse/autthumb.cfm?aut=22950>), Keeled Treehopper (*Entylia carinata*) on a leaf.

Facts: Missouri Department of Conservation (<https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/treehoppers>); North Carolina State University Insect Museum (<http://treehoppers.insectmuseum.org/public/site/treehoppers/home/sounds>); Smithsonian Institution (<https://www.si.edu/stories/beautiful-and-bizarre-treehopper>).

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