

Madagascan Hissing Cockroaches

These insects look fierce, but are, in fact, very friendly and often seen as endearing when you get to know them.



Invertebrate: no bones.

Insect: 6 legs and 3 parts to the body (head, thorax and abdomen).

Habitat: forest floor in Madagascar, an island off the East Coast of Africa.

Eats: dead plant and animal remains on the forest floor (scavenger).

Fascinating Facts

They are nocturnal, hiding during the day under logs and leaves in the forest.

They are the same colour as their surroundings (camouflage).

Their bodies have a tough outside (exoskeleton) to protect them from predators.

They will hiss if disturbed and can run quickly.

Cockroach fossils have been found which are 300,000,000 years old.

