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Opening extract from
Big Book of Big Bugs

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Lots of legs

All bugs have at least six legs, but some have lots more. They help them to run fast, climb and hunt for food.

While it's hiding in the undergrowth, a **Mexican red-knee taratula** can sense whether there is another spider, or something good to eat, walking past.

An **emperor scorpion** uses its big claws to grab and crush prey.



It carries its babies to keep them safe.

These aren't actually legs. They're feelers used to sense food.

The rhinoceros cockroach has spiky legs to dig burrows into hard ground.



The imperial moth caterpillar is the largest caterpillar in the world.



The caterpillar uses its legs to climb up tree branches so it can eat the leaves. After a month, it will turn into a moth.

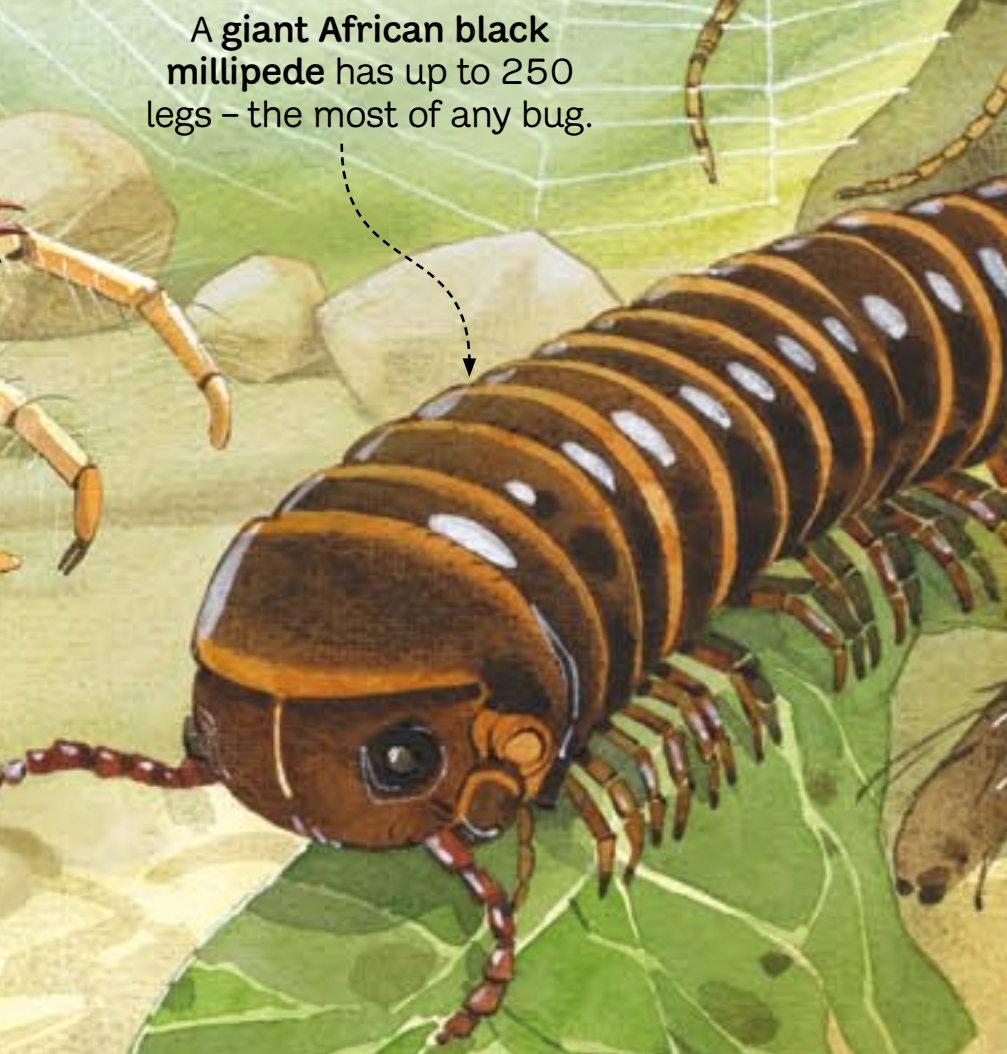
A camel spider senses food through hairs on its front legs.



It eats small lizards and mice. Its long legs help it to chase down prey.

It uses its big jaws to dig burrows where it can hide from the hot sun.

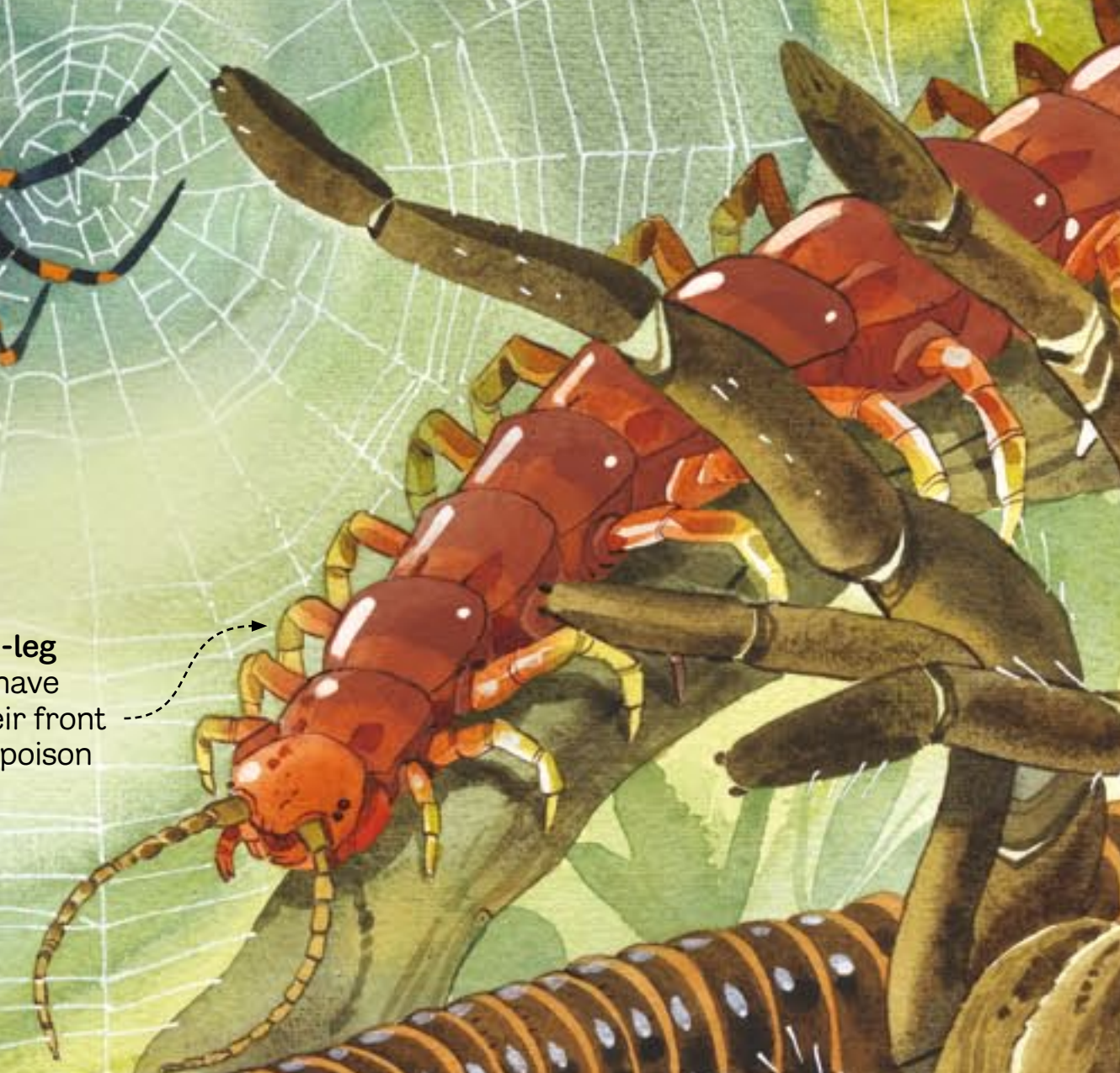
A giant African black millipede has up to 250 legs – the most of any bug.



Golden silk orb-weaving spiders weave huge webs that can be as tall as a two-floor house.



Peruvian yellow-leg centipedes can have around 40 legs. Their front legs are filled with poison to kill prey.



The goliath birdeater spider is one of the largest spiders in the world.



It kills big bugs, mice and lizards with its big fangs. But it hardly ever eats birds.

When a birdeater is frightened, it shakes poisonous hairs off its back.