Do you know what an insect is? Is a spider an insect or a centipede?

Although you might think that they are insects, they are not. Actually, insects have many characteristics that other animals do not have. Insects belong to a group of animals called arthropods.

They have jointed legs and a hard body covering. While a person’s skeleton is on the inside of the body, an insect’s skeleton is on the outside. And a typical insect has six jointed legs and three body parts. Hey, this is a lot to remember. Listen to this song; it will help you remember facts about insects.

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| What is an insect? Can you see?  Look at a grasshopper or a bee.  Three body parts, let’s name them all:  Head, thorax, abdomen, I recall.  What is an insect? Can you see?  On an insect’s head are three main things:  Two antennae and their eyes,  A mouth that’s even the perfect size.  Insects, insects, they lay eggs.  Most insects have six jointed legs.  They help our trees and plants to grow tall.  They’re every colour, some big, some small.  What is an insect? Do you know  That some eat plants to help them grow?  Most adult have four wings to fly,  Like the beautiful monarch butterfly.  What is an insect? Can you see  How important insects are for you and me?  They carry pollen from flower to flower,  And dead animals they help devour. | Insects, insects, they lay eggs.  Most insects have six jointed legs.  They help our trees and plants to grow tall.  They’re every colour, some big, some small.  Insects, insects, they lay eggs.  Most insects have six jointed legs.  They supply food for animals to eat.  Insects make our world complete. |

**Answer the questions:**

1. Is a spider an insect?
2. Are insects helpful?

**Give the definition of an insect.**