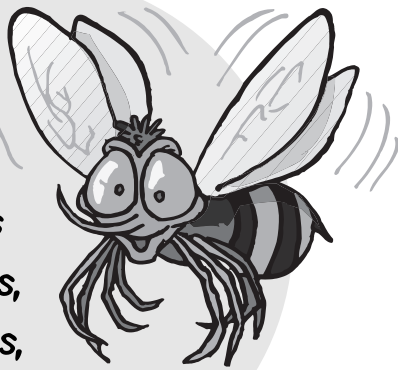


The Riddle of the **OOGIE** **BOOGIE**

Creepy Crawly Medicine

Did you know that many bugs and other natural resources (besides leeches and maggots!) have been used to treat various ailments for years and years? Did you know that the rain forest is a huge source of new drugs to treat cancer and other illnesses? Read on and learn some fascinating facts and tremendous trivia about creepy crawlies, potent plants, and modern medicine!

Bee venom is used for the treatment of many diseases including arthritis, migraine headaches, and skin conditions like psoriasis.



Sphagnum moss has been used to treat wounds for centuries. It's twice as absorbent as cotton! Using the moss to treat soldiers' wounds was a common practice in World War I.



Seventy percent of plants identified by the National Cancer Institute as having the potential to treat cancer are found in the rainforest!



A fish known as the "doctor fish" helps treat skin diseases in Turkey. When a patient puts his diseased skin in the water, the fish strike and lick off the scaly layer of skin. This clears the diseased area, causes a little bleeding, and exposes the wound to healing water and sunlight!



The Riddle of the **OOGIE BOOGIE**

Creepy Crawly Medicine



Would you like ants, or stitches, ma'am? Ancient medical writings show that the powerful jaws of carpenter ants were used to close wounds as early as 1,000 B.C. A live ant was placed so that its jaws closed over a wound or incision. Its head was then cut off, but the jaws remained closed over the wound until healing took place!



Twenty-five percent of all prescription drugs have ingredients from plants.



Three cases of dogs recognizing skin cancer in humans have been reported in England. In each case, the dogs showed odd behavior focused on the trouble spot. The owners decided to see a doctor, and learned that they had skin cancer! Experiments are underway to see if dogs can detect other forms of cancer as well.



Willow bark has been used for fever and inflammation since 400 B.C. Aspirin, one of the most common drugs in the world, was made from one of the ingredients in willow bark.

