

The Mantid

The mantid(螳螂) or mantis, as it is sometimes called, is a long thin 'in-sekt (昆虫) that is green or brown(棕色的). Green ones walk on green leaves(树叶) or stalks(茎,秆). Brown ones walk on brown stalks. This makes them hard for birds to see and eat.

This insect is often called a “praying(祈祷) mantis”. It gets this name because it often lifts(举起) its front legs as if it were praying.

Do not harm(伤害) mantids. They are our friends because mantids feed(喂养) on other insects that are pests(害虫). They are large eaters and often at'tack (袭击) other mantids. A 'fe-male(雌性的) will not 'hes-i-tate(犹豫) to eat her mate if she becomes very 'hun-gry (饥饿的). She and other mantids use the sharp hooks(钩) on their front legs for attacking. Females lay their eggs on tree trunks(树干) which they smear[Iə](涂抹) with a kind of glue(胶水). The baby mantids hatch(孵化) out in the spring.

读出下列单词，并写出汉语意思：

'man-tid _____ 'in-sekt _____

leave [i:] _____ stalk _____

pray _____ lift _____

feed _____ at'tack _____

'fe-male _____ 'hes-i-tate _____

'hun-gry _____ hook _____

trunk _____ smear [Iə] _____

glue _____ hatch _____

mantis = mantid, 复数形式为 mantises 或 mantids.

...as if it were praying: 好象在祈祷一样。动词过去式 were 表示一种“虚拟语气”。