

Why Do Crickets Sing?

Story words: female, other, vibrates, louder, loud

At about sunset at the end of a hot day, you can often listen to crickets “singing.”

Most songs come from male crickets. They hope to attract a mate with their singing. They also want to scare off other males who are competing with them to find a female cricket. Crickets live for only about 90 days, so they do not have much time to mate.

Most female crickets do not sing, but there are some who do.

Crickets “sing” by scraping one wing against the other. A cricket’s wing is like a comb that vibrates when you scrape it.

Crickets are louder when it is hot outside. Some people say that this is because the cricket moves its wings fast

when the cricket becomes hot. The scrapes are not louder, but there are more scrapes to listen to. When many crickets are all singing fast, it can be quite loud outside.

In the daytime, crickets are hiding from things that hunt them. They are resting, and they do not sing.

If crickets are singing in a shrub, and you move in close to take a look, they will stop singing if they are scared and wish to hide from you.