

# Rove Beetle

COLEOPTERA: STAPHYLINIDAE



**Did you know?** Most rove beetles don't look like other beetles because they have very short elytra. Some people mistake them for earwigs or ants!

**Did you know?** There are more species of rove beetle than any other animal or plant. The rove beetle family has over 65,000 species and new ones are described every year!

**Did you know?** Some rove beetles live in ant nests and trick the ants into feeding them!

**Did you know?** When threatened, some rove beetles can spray defensive chemicals from their abdomen to ward off predators!

**Did you know?** The larvae of most rove beetles have never been seen!

## **Look and see!**



Rove beetles are flexible because they live in small spaces like under rocks or in leaf litter.



Rove beetles fold their wings like origami to fit under their small elytra!



Water skaters can glide across the water a high speed!



Credits:

Photos: Andrey Ponomarev (<https://www.inaturalist.org/people/sskorpio>) first picture; Corinna Herr (<https://www.inaturalist.org/people/corinnah>), flexing beetle; Bruno Bell ([https://www.inaturalist.org/search?q=tasmania\\_cryptofauna](https://www.inaturalist.org/search?q=tasmania_cryptofauna)), beetle wings. Nikolae Vladimirov (<https://www.inaturalist.org/people/nakarb>), water skater.

Facts: Wikipedia ([Wikipedia.org](https://www.wikipedia.org)); Bugguide ([bugguide.net](https://www.bugguide.net)); AZ Animals ([a-z-animals.com](https://www.a-z-animals.com)).

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