

Maya's MYSTERIES

"Fear not, neither be dismayed, for your light shall penetrate the densest darkness." —'Abdu'l-Bahá

SHINE BRIGHTLY



Did you know you can *glow* in the dark? It's called **bioluminescence**, and it's from chemical reactions in your body. Humans' light is a thousand times weaker than our eyes can detect, so you need a special camera to see it.

But some creatures glow so brightly that you can see them shine with your own eyes! They glow to protect themselves from predators, communicate,

or find food. Scientists study them to research cures for diseases. They found that some bioluminescent cells can help them detect cancer cells. Amazing, right?

Humans don't glow as much as these creatures, but we can let our virtues shine. I forgot my lunch today, and a friend shared her sandwich with me. It felt like she was shining with kindness, and it made *me* light up too! How can *you* share your glow today?

GLOW ON!

Match each bioluminescent creature to its fascinating fact.



- 1 These many-legged creatures gather in swarms big enough to see from space!
- 2 If this animal is attacked, it can regrow all five of its arms!
- 3 This beetle flashes to attract a female. Each species has its own light patterns.
- 4 In Australia, these grow on decaying plant material in forests.
- 5 Named for an island, this creature glows from bacteria that helps it blend with moonlit waters.
- 6 As it swims, this creature flashes light for camouflage and maybe to communicate.
- 7 Named for its color, this animal releases a glowing substance to confuse enemies.
- 8 These creatures are so small that thousands can fit in one drop of water!