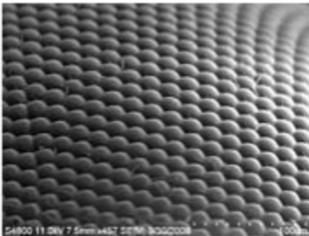


Feb 11

## Compound Eyes

Compound eyes consist of many photoreceptor units (or ommatidia). Each 'ommatidium' is an individual 'eye unit'. Most flies have compound eyes.



An image of a house fly compound eye surface by Scanning Electron microscope



The image perceived is a combination of inputs from ommatidia on a convex surface. Thus they point in slightly different directions.

Compared with simple eyes, compound eyes possess a wide-angle view. They can detect fast movement and, in some cases, the polarization of light.



How Do Insect Eyes Work? | Compound Eyes | Amazing Animal Senses | SciShow Kids  
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Looking Through Insects eye - Compound eye | Junior Tinker Lab at Home

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The family of proteins involved is known as the "phytochrome" family, and these proteins are found in all plant leaves. These proteins detect the presence of light and inform the cell whether it is day or night, or whether the plant is in the shade or the sun. "You can think of them as the plant's 'eyes'.



Not actually eyes but light detecting proteins in the leaves.

This is why plants often face towards the sun.

Think of a sun flower.

