

Podcast Questions: <https://www.npr.org/transcripts/811376394> - Scorpion vs Mouse: A mind blowing desert showdown.

**1. What Netflix show are they talking about?**

They are talking about Night on earth, which is a Netflix documentary show.

**2. What is Lauren Esposito's job?**

She is the curator of arachnology at the California Academy of Sciences.

**3. What animal does Ashlee Rowe study?**

She studies the grasshopper mouse. They are super cute.

**4. Why does the mouse attack the scorpion?**

The mouse finds the scorpion delicious and is a scorpion eating expert.

**5. How much does this mouse weigh?**

They weigh about 20 to 50 grams.

**6. Can you keep two of these male mice in the same cage? What happens?**

No, these mice are very territorial and will fight each other if they are put into the same cage.

**7. What is special about the scorpion's venom?**

They can control how effective their venom is. They can use a stronger or a weaker venom depending on what they are stinging.

**8. What is the venom conservation hypothesis?**

It basically says that if your body has to produce things and those things cost you energy to produce, you want to use the least amount in any given circumstance, so you don't want to waste all your energy.

**9. Can the mice get stung by a scorpion? What happens when the mice get stung?**

Yes, they can, they have developed venom resistance after getting stung so many times. It also makes the mouse more powerful.

**10. What does the scorpion need to do to fight off this predator?**

Scorpions have to evolve to produce stronger and stronger venom to defend itself from this mouse.

**11. Why does the mouse howl?**

They call to each other and warn each other that they are entering another mouse's territory.

**12. How can the scorpion detect a predator or pray?**

They feel vibrations on the surface. They have, what amounts to, tiny little ears on their feet that pick-up vibrations. This allows the scorpion to run or fight.