

THE ANT AND THE GRASSHOPPER

Learning Outcomes

- To get familiar with the concept of personification
- To recognise the message in the story
- To learn that hard work pays
- To get familiar with the genre (Play)
- To get familiar with Aesop's Fables

Pre-reading

Generate a discussion with the following questions.

Have you seen ants?

How do they move? (they move fast in a line)

Do they carry anything when they move? What do you see them carrying?

READING

Students read to comprehend, scan for details, analyse and evaluate

Play the audio for Scene 1/ Read Scene 1 aloud.

Explain the text and question students to check comprehension.

Draw two columns as shown with the headings written. Let students help you fill the details during the course of the reading session. Alternately you may do it as a post-reading exercise.

Tell students that they will have to help you list all that happened between the two insects and describe and compare them taking cue from their actions. Prompt if required.

This will help them scan for details, develop analytical skills and evaluate.

For the teacher's reference:

Grasshopper	Ant
Loved to have fun and tried to tempt the ant	Was always busy and did not listen to the grasshopper
Lazy and did not want to work	Was always active and worked hard
Did not think about what will happen later	Planned well and thought about the coming days
Was shameless and begged for food	Was kind-hearted and gave food
Learnt a lesson from the ant	Was able to teach the grasshopper a lesson

Ask students:

*What did the grasshopper do all summer?
Who did the grasshopper see? What did the
grasshopper tell the ant? What did he love
doing? Why was the ant busy collecting food?
Why was the grasshopper not worried?*

Do you agree with the grasshopper or the ant?
(Allow free response)

Read Scene 2 aloud.

Explain the text and question students to
check comprehension.

Ask students:

*What happened during winter? Where did the
grasshopper go? Why did he go there and not
anywhere else? Do you think the grasshopper
would have been happy to see the ant? Why?
(He knew that the ant had stored food) Was
the ant happy to see the grasshopper? Why?
(He had seen the grasshopper having fun
while he worked) Was the ant kind-hearted?
What tells you so? What do we learn from this
story?*

Post-reading

Help students to role-play the story

GRAMMAR

The Simple Present Tense

Write the given sentence on the board.

I go to school by bus. (happens every day)

Ask students:

Did you come to school by bus today/yesterday? (Yes)

Will you come to school by bus tomorrow? (Yes)

Does this happen every day? (Yes)

Now write on the board: *A cat drinks milk.*

Ask students:

Is the cat drinking milk now? (Don't know.)

Does it always like milk? (Yes)

Is it true that a cat drinks milk? (Yes)

Explain to students that we use the present tense to talk about routine, things that happen again and again and things that are always true.

Explain the use of *verb + s* with the help of the given input in the Reader.

VOCABULARY

Compound words

You may use flash cards with pictures to help students understand and learn the concept.

Show two cards with pictures that together form a compound word and ask students to name the new word.

Do this with a few more cards.

2. *Answers may vary. Please accept all logical answers. Suggested answer:* Grasshopper learned that he must work hard in summer to store food for winter.

Grammar

A. 2. go 3. shines 4. sits 5. run 6. drinks

B. 2. jumps 3. live 4. watches 5. cycle 6. eat

Vocabulary

2. flowerpot 3. sunflower 4. toothpaste 5. paintbrush 6. butterfly

Listening

Listening text

1. It is cold in winter.
2. The sun shines brightly in summer.
3. An ant has six legs.
4. Ants live in groups.
5. Grasshoppers can jump very far.
6. Some grasshoppers can fly.

Answers

1. cold 2. sun 3. six 4. live 5. jump 6. fly

Speaking

Free response using can and cannot

Writing

The rabbit is a small animal.

It has soft fur.

It eats plants.

It lives in a burrow.

Word Activity

a – apple; b – banana, ball; c – cat, cup; d – duck, drum; e – egg, elephant;
f – fish, fly; g – grapes, goat; h – hen, hut

QUESTION BANK

The Ant and the Grasshopper

A. Answer the questions.

1. What did Grasshopper think of the ants?

Ans: Grasshopper thought that the ants did not know how to have fun or play and they carried their food instead of eating it.

2. Why did Grasshopper go to Ant's house?

Ans: Grasshopper went to Ant's house to ask for food as it had nothing to eat and was cold and hungry.

3. What did Grasshopper say when Ant asked it to store food for winter?

Ans: Grasshopper said that the winter was far away and it was not worried about it. There was warm sunshine and summer was the time for fun.

4. How did Grasshopper learn a lesson?

Ans: Grasshopper did not listen to Ant and store food for the winter. So, when winter came, it was cold and hungry. When summer came, Grasshopper worked hard to store food for the next winter.

B. Choose the correct answer.

This story tells us that we should

- help others always.
- be prepared.
- sing and be merry.

Ans: b

C. Read the lines and answer the questions.

1. *"Hello, Grasshopper. I am busy. I have work to do."*

- Who said this?
- What work did the speaker have?

Ans: a. Ant said this to Grasshopper.

- Ant had to store food for winter.

2. *"I played, sang and danced."*

- Who said this and to whom?
- When did he say this?
- What did the speaker get after this and from whom?

Ans: a. Grasshopper said this to Ant.

- He said this when Ant asked Grasshopper what he did all summer.
- Ant gave Grasshopper some food.