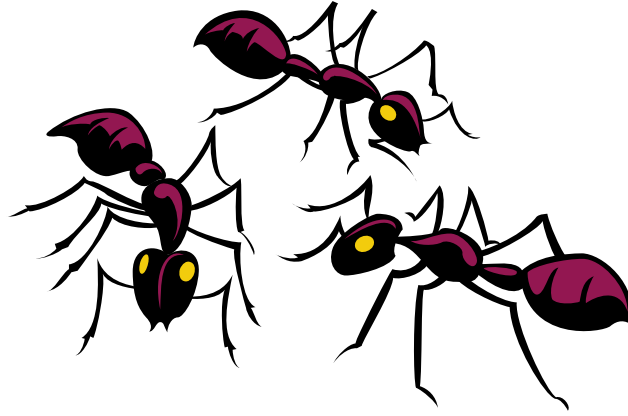




Brainy Bug Resources

Amazing ants



Read the passage below and answer the questions :

Ants are marvellous little creatures. They are great at working together to get a job done. Did you know that ants are also incredibly strong animals? Some ants can carry 100 times their body weight. But if the object they're trying to move is too big for just one of them, they will work together as a team.

When ants live together, it is called an ant colony. Each ant in the colony will have a specific job. The queen ant is the leader of the colony, while there are ants to feed the colony and others to keep the colony safe. There are also ants with the very special job of keeping the queen safe. Some ants are assigned the job of building the nest and maintaining it.

Have you ever wondered what ants eat? Ants are omnivores. You might find them feeding on vegetables, fruits, meats and anything else you might like to eat yourself. There are over 10,000 different types of ants in the world and each type of ant will have its own food preferences.

Have you ever spilt some sugar and noticed that hundreds of ants have started to gather around it? If you watch ants working, you will understand why. Sugar is a great source of energy. Because ants are almost always on the move, they need all the energy they can get. When an ant finds some sugar (or any other food), he will rush back to his nest to tell his friends about it. As he travels, he leaves a trail of chemicals behind, which the other ants in the nest then follow to the source of food.

Do you agree that ants are amazing?

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Answer these questions from the passage you just read.

1. Does the passage say that ants are good team players? Give examples.

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2. What fact does the author share to prove that ants are strong?

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3. What job would you like if you were an ant in an ant colony? Why?

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4. What is an omnivore? Can you think of other animals that are omnivores.

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5. Why do ants leave a chemical trail as they travel from a source of food back to their nests?

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6. Do you agree that ants are amazing? Why?

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Key

1. Where does the author live?

The author lives in Tamil Nadu, India.

2. From this passage, do you think that the word 'cyclones' and 'storms' refer to the same thing?

Yes, they refer to the same thing. The author uses the word 'cyclone' and 'storm' interchangeably. Through most of the passage, he uses the word 'storm', using the word 'cyclone' only once. I think a 'cyclone' is a type of storm.

3. Why does the author say that the drizzle was not unusual?

The drizzle was not unusual because it was the monsoon season and rains were expected anyway.

4. Do you think the author is a child or a grown-up? How do you know?

I think the author is a child because he says that schools were closed that day because a storm had been predicted. However, the author could also be a teacher who did not have to work that day.

5. What did the author's family lose in the storm? What did they gain?

The author's family lost their car when the tree branch fell on it. They also gained a puppy that day, who they rescued from the storm.

6. What are the adjectives used to describe the storm in paragraph one?

'Terrifying' and 'extremely powerful' are the two adjectives used to describe the storm in paragraph 1.

7. How would you describe the author's character, from this passage?

I think the author is a curious person because he sits by the window, watching the storm. The author is also kind, because he tries to help the puppy;

Please use the key only as a reference. If your child is able to substantiate his reasoning with facts and inferences from the paragraph, accept it as correct.

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