

## The Ant and the Grasshopper



One summer day, a lazy grasshopper was chirping and sitting and playing games, just as he did every day. A hard-working ant passed by, carrying a huge leaf that he was taking back to the ant's nest.



The grasshopper said to the ant, "All you ants do is work all day. You should be more like me and play, play, play."

The ant replied, "I'm storing food for the winter season. You should be working, for just the same reason. What will you eat when the weather gets cold? How will you feed your hungry household?"

The grasshopper laughed, "All you ants do is work and worry. Slow down, don't be in such a hurry. Just look around, there's plenty of food; don't give me advice, that's just plain rude."

The ant kept working, the grasshopper kept playing, and winter soon came. The ant had prepared for the winter and had enough food stored in the nest to last through the cold, harsh weather.

Now that winter had arrived, the grasshopper couldn't find any food, and soon became very hungry. He soon remembered the hard-working ant he had made fun of in the summer. The grasshopper went to the ant's nest and asked for food.

The ant, who was still busy working at keeping the food clean and dry, said, "I toiled to save food for the winter freeze, while you spent the summer playing in ease. I stored just enough food for the winter, it's true, but I can't feed you all winter, or I'll starve too."

The ant gave the grasshopper a few crumbs, but the grasshopper was cold, miserable, and hungry all winter. The next summer, the grasshopper worked hard to store food for the upcoming winter. That next winter, the grasshopper was well fed and happy! He had learned to think ahead and plan for the future.

### Questions

1. Which character in the story played all day? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who did grasshopper make fun of for working hard? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Could ant give grasshopper a lot of food? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Why did grasshopper start working? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the moral of this story? \_\_\_\_\_

## The Ant and the Grasshopper Answers



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### Questions

1. Which character in the story played all day? the grasshopper
2. Who did grasshopper make fun of for working hard? the ant
3. Could ant give grasshopper a lot of food? No
4. Why did grasshopper start working? So he would have food next winter.
5. What is the moral of this story? Think ahead and plan for the future.

# THE ANT AND THE GRASSHOPPER

BY AESOP



The ants were spending a fine winter's day drying grain collected in the summertime. A Grasshopper, perishing with famine, passed by and earnestly begged for a little food. The Ants inquired of him, "Why did you not treasure up food during the summer?" He replied, "I had not leisure enough. I passed the days in singing." They then said in derision: "If you were foolish enough to sing all the summer, you must dance supperless to bed in the winter."

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