

Task: Ants are busy insects that live together in groups called colonies. Describe the different jobs that ants do to help the colony survive. (Survive means to live.) Use details from the passage to support your answer.

Exemplar A:

Ants do many jobs to help the colony survive. First, worker ants dig nests with their jaws and use saliva to make solid walls. This makes a strong home where they can be safe. Next, scout ants make a scent trail when they locate food so others can find the food. This way others can help carry the food back to the nest to store it since they will need food later. Finally, soldiers protect the nest. They use their enormous heads to block the entrance and tunnels. They also fight predators who try to enter. These insects make sure everyone is taken care of well in their communities. We can do this in our classroom too.

Exemplar B:

Ants work hard at many jobs help the colony survive. First, worker ants dig tunnels and chambers in the underground nests with their jaws. They use saliva to make the walls solid, and put the extra dirt outside so they will have a safe, strong home. Next, scout ants explore for food. They make a scent trail when they locate something to eat so others can find this food. This way other ants can help carry it back to the nest, store it for later and then everyone will have meals to eat. The soldier ants protect the nest. They have enormous heads they use to block the opening and fight predators that might enter it. Invaders could eat the ants without the help of these fighters. The most important job might be the queen's job. She heads the colony and is the only ant who can reproduce so without her there are no more ants! These tiny insects work to make sure everyone is cared for fairly in their communities. We can work toward the same in our classroom too.

Exemplar C:

Ants each do important work. They do different jobs so that everything needed gets done to help the whole colony survive.

Queen ants reproduce by laying eggs that other ants will take care of like a babysitter would. Now there will be more workers, scouts and soldiers so the colony can survive when they all work together.

Soldier ants use their enormous heads to block the entrance from predators. These fierce fighters keep the entire colony safe so all the ants can keep doing their jobs.

The next type is a scout ant who hunts for food, then leaves a scent trail so others can help carry it back. If scouts didn't locate food and leave this trail so it can be brought back, the whole colony might die of hunger.

Worker ants use their jaws to build nests that have tunnels and chambers. They use their saliva to make the walls solid, and safe. Everyone needs shelter to survive.

By not working for only their own self-interest, ants make sure the whole community is well cared for and lifted. We can learn how to do this too from them.

Below Level

Soldier ants have enormous heads. There is also a scout ant. Scout ants look for the food and bring it back. The worker ants dig tunnels and build a pile of dirt. They use their jaws to dig.