

Ant and Grasshopper

What does Grasshopper learn?

¹ Ant hurried back and forth. Each time he went, he carried another small piece of food back to his nest. *I have to fill the nest, I have to fill the nest,* he panted to himself as he worked.

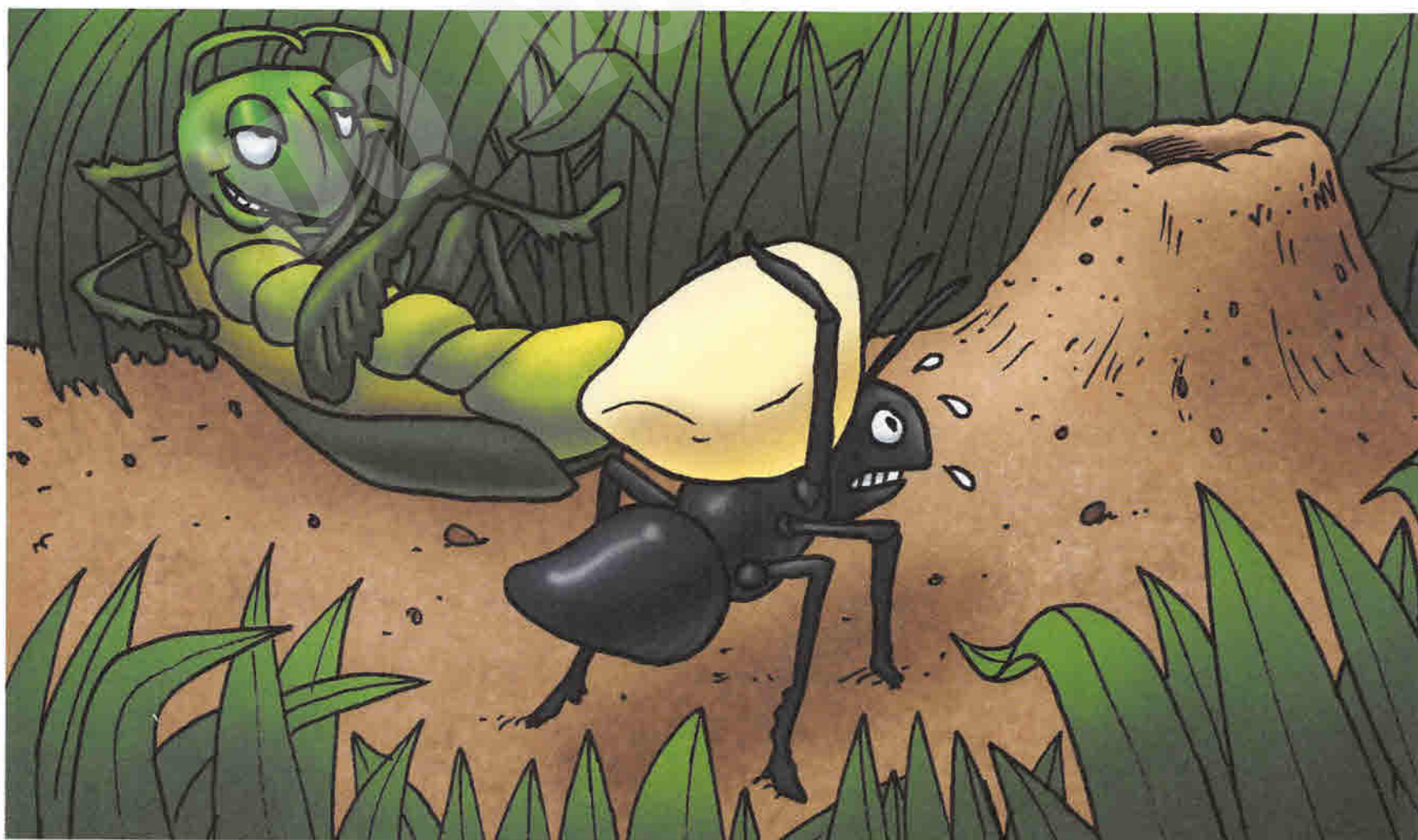
² Grasshopper watched. He thought Ant was silly. "Come watch the bugs skate on the pond," he called to Ant.

³ Ant didn't even stop. "Oh, no, I can't. I must get more food for winter. I have to fill the nest."

⁴ So it went all summer. Grasshopper called out every day, and Ant answered the same.

⁵ When the leaves had all fallen off the trees, a sharp wind began to blow. Ant crawled safely into his nest. Grasshopper had nowhere to go.

⁶ In spring, when there were fresh green buds on the trees, Ant came out of his nest. Grasshopper was nowhere to be found.



Some of these sentences are about **real** things. Write **R** by them. The other sentences are about **make believe** things. Write **M** by them.

1. _____ Ants gather food.
2. _____ Grasshoppers watch baseball games.
3. _____ Grasshoppers are lazy.
4. This story is called a **fable**. Fables usually teach a lesson. What lesson does this one teach?

5. If you were Ant, what would you have said to Grasshopper?

6. What makes Ant and Grasshopper different from real insects?

7. What season is it when the story begins? What season is it when the story ends?

8. In paragraph 1, why do you think the words *I have to fill the nest* are in italics?

9. Why does Grasshopper think Ant is silly?
