

Ants Are BUSY



by Margaret Gallo
illustrated by Reggie Holladay

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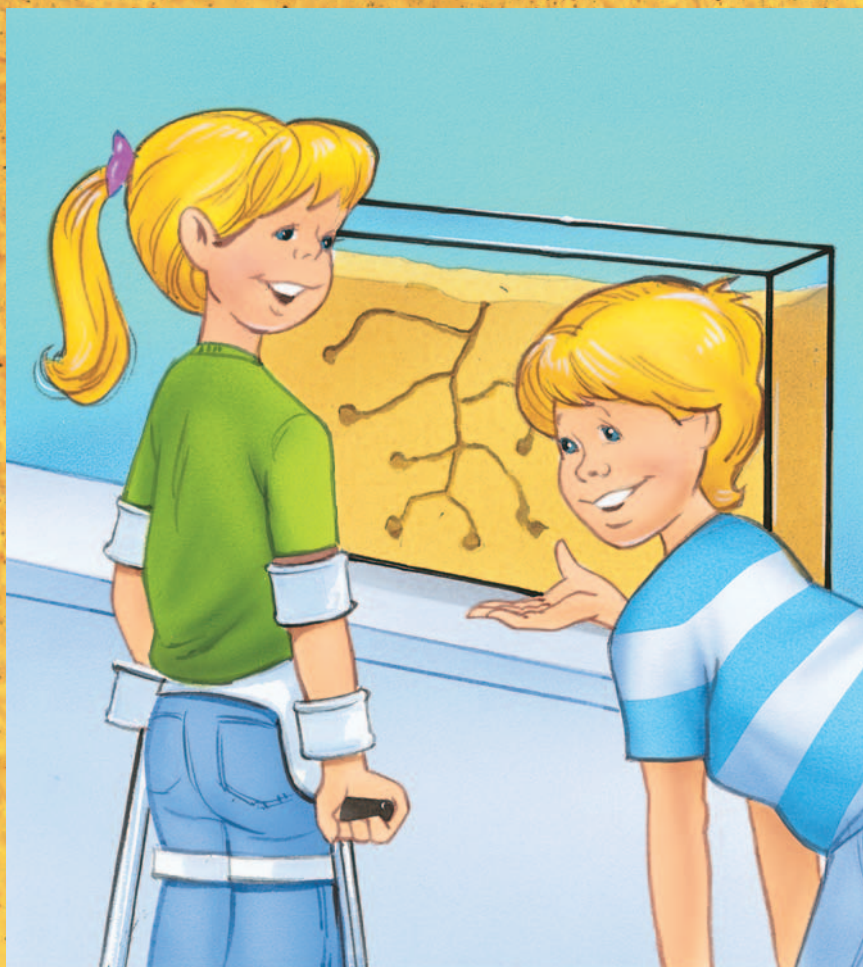
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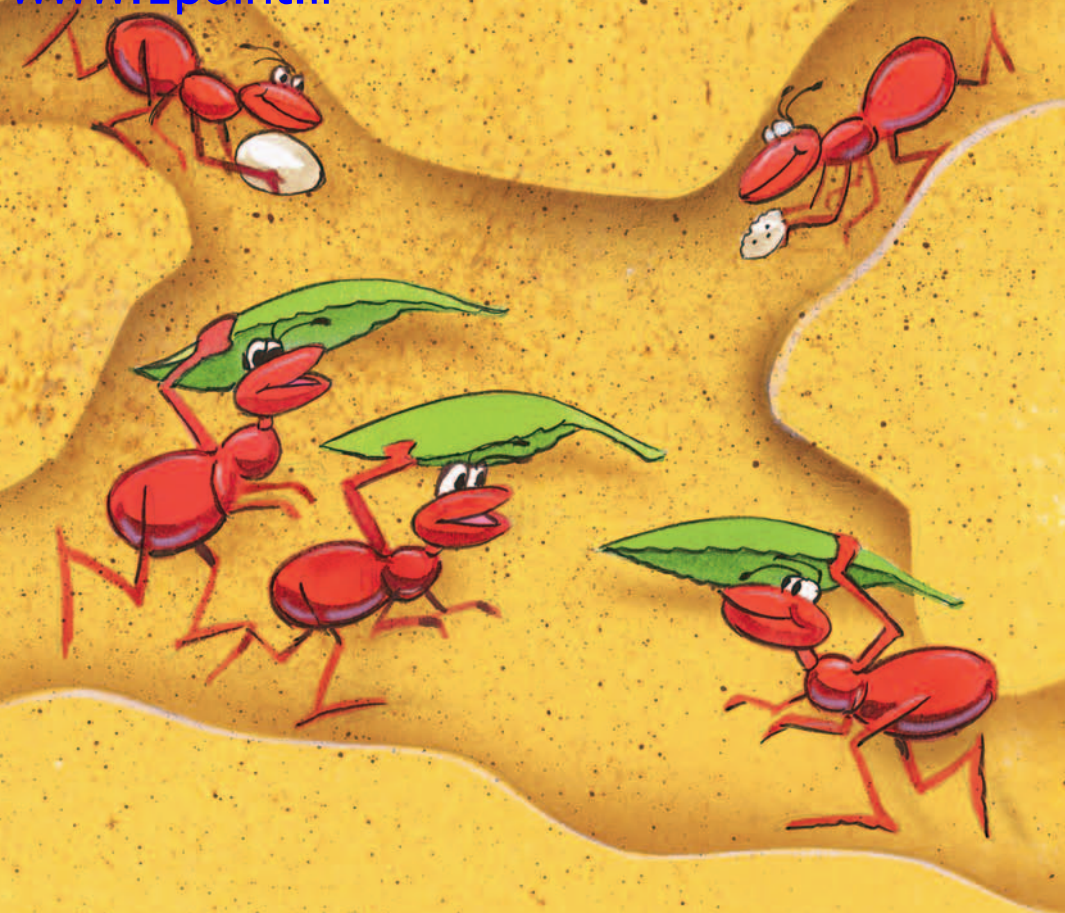
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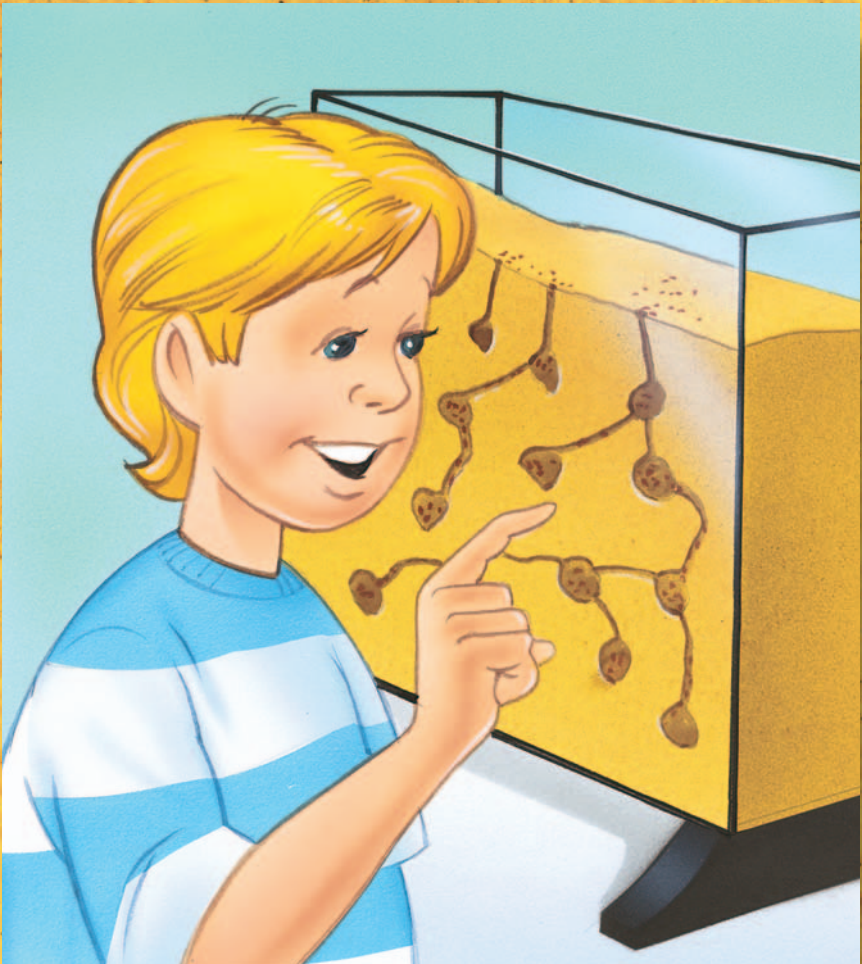
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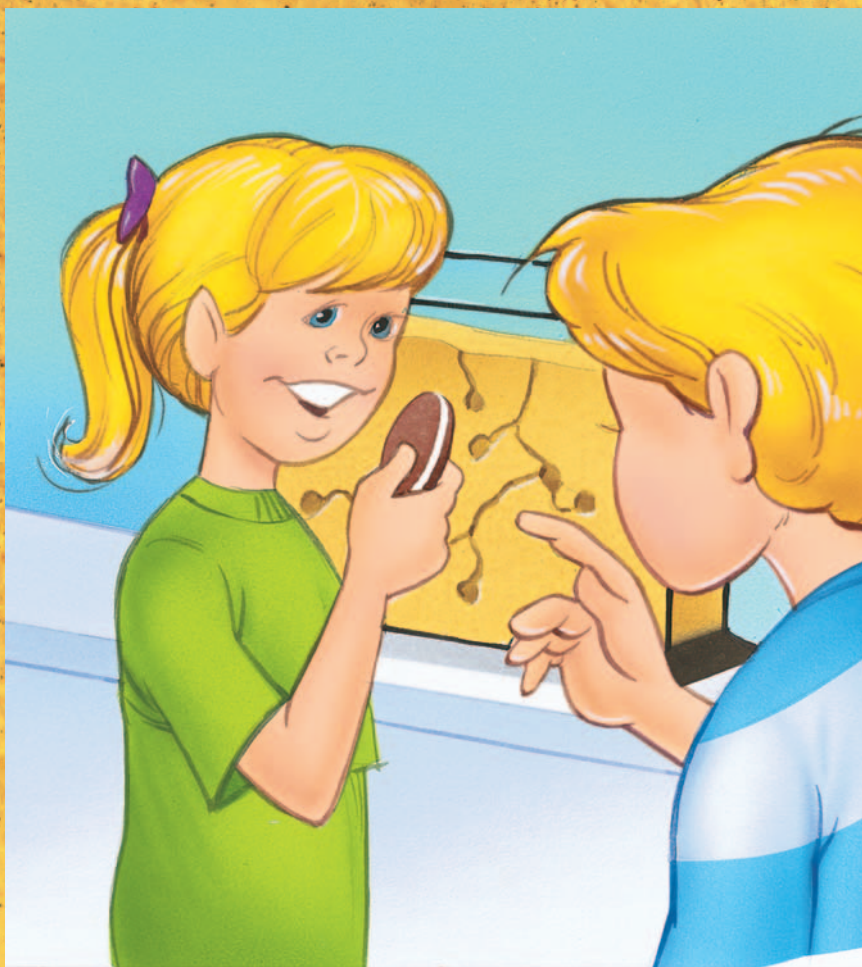
- ▶ Jeff looked at Rose's ant farm.
Some ants were in the sand.
"It's a home for ants," he said.



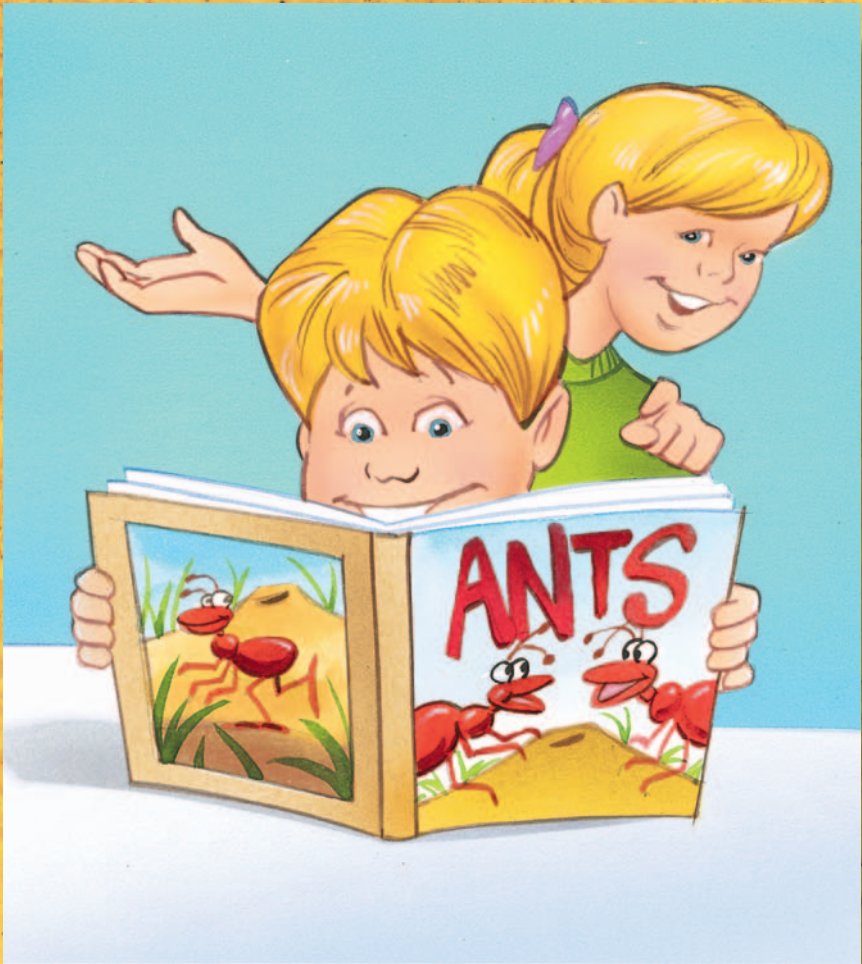
▶ “They eat and they work,”
said Rose. “They lay eggs
and dig tunnels.”



▶ Jeff counted twelve little rooms off the tunnels. “It looks like they have food in the little rooms,” he said.



- ▶ “Ants like sweets,” Rose said.
“I feed them bits of cookie.”
- ▶ “Don’t touch that cookie!”
she said. “That’s for my ants.”



▶ Jeff got a book about ants. “I’m going to see what ants eat in the wild,” he said. “Ants like to eat bugs and leaves.”



- ▶ “Do ants have a place for trash?” asked Jeff.
- ▶ “Yes,” said Rose. “They have another place for baby ants.”



▶ Jeff poked his nose in his ant book. “Only the queen lays eggs. She puts them in a special place.”



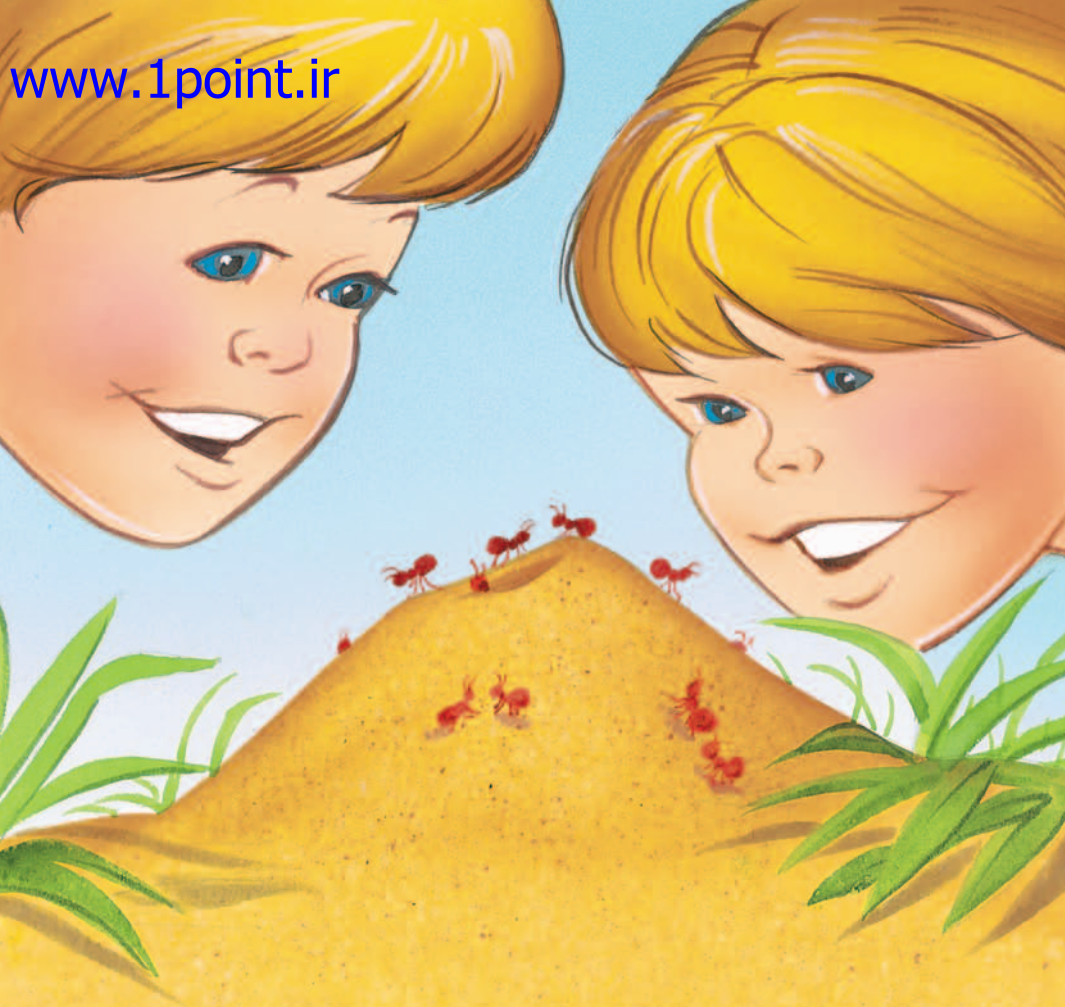
▶ “After she lays the eggs, they change their form. The queen ant takes care of them until they hatch.”



“The worker ants take care of the queen. They bring her food and wait for the eggs to hatch.”



▶ Rose said, “Come on. Let’s go out to the field. I hope to get some leaves to feed the ants.”

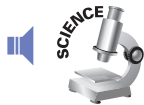


▶ “Ants are fun to look at,”
said Jeff.

▶ “Yes,” said Rose. “I’m glad
that you like them too.”

🔊 Think and Respond

- 🔊 1 What is this story mostly about?
- 🔊 2 What kinds of things do ants eat?
- 🔊 3 Which ant lays all the eggs?
- 🔊 4 Why do you think the workers help the queen ant?
- 🔊 5 How are ants like people?



My Ant Book Make a book about an ant colony. Draw many little rooms, and show where the queen ant stays.



School-Home Connection Go on a nature hike with a family member. Look for ant hills. Leave some cookie crumbs by the ant hills. Watch to see if the ants carry the crumbs back to their nest.



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