Grade 4
English

Comprehension Passage

Read the passage and answer each question.

The History of Ants

Ants are insects that we find everywhere. They may be in your home, under your school desk, in the bathroom or in the grass during a picnic. There are more than 12,000 types of ants all around the world.

In a colony there are three types of ants. These are the queen, the males and the female workers. A colony can also have more than one queen. The male ants and the queen both have wings, but workers don't. Soldier ants protect the queen ant and the colony. They also collect food and take care of the colony.

The job of the queen ant is to lay eggs for the rest of her life. Some queen ants can live up to several years and have million babies! When the queen of the ant colony dies, the colony does not survive for long.

Ants don't have ears; they listen to the vibrations through their little feet. Ants breathe through tiny holes in their entire body because they don't have lungs like us human beings. When ants are looking for food, they leave chemical trails so that they know where all they have already been.

Did you know that an ant can lift 20 times its own weight? This means that if a second grade student was an ant, they would be able to pick up a car!

Answer the following questions:

1. **What do the soldier ants do?** _____

   a) Protect the queen b) Protect the colony

   c) Collect food d) All of the above

2. **What happens when the queen ant dies?** _____

   a) The colony doesn't survive b) One of the female workers becomes the queen

   c) The soldier ants take over d) None of the above

3. **How do the ants breathe?**

   _____

4. **What do they do when they are looking for food?**

   _____

5. **How do the ants hear without any ears?**

   _____

This story has been written exclusively for www.grade1to6.com by Ms Diya Verma, a college student and a budding writer from New Delhi.

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