

The Ant and the Grasshopper

In a field one summer's day, a grasshopper was relaxing, eating as much grass as he could. When his tummy was full, he began to play some music. He hopped about, playing happily.



Slowly, an ant passed him by, carrying an ear of corn.

"Why not come and sing with me?" called the grasshopper.

"No," replied the ant. "I am busy collecting food to prepare for the winter. I recommend that you do the same."

"Why bother about winter?" said the grasshopper. "We have plenty of food and it is a beautiful sunny day."



But the ant shook his head and went on his way. He continued with his hard work all day, walking slowly past the grasshopper with his corn.

"What a silly ant!" said the lazy grasshopper. "He should worry about winter when it is winter!"

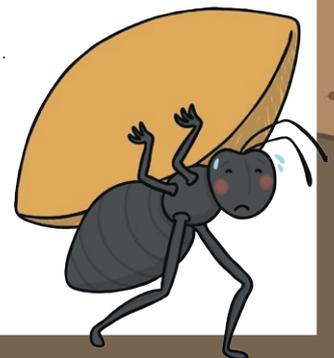
When winter finally came and the snow was on the ground, the grasshopper had no food. The ant and his family had plenty to eat from the stores of grain he had collected in the summer.

"Please can I have some of your food?" begged the grasshopper. "You can spare a little bit of corn."

"No!" shouted the ant. "You said I was silly!"

So, the grasshopper was hungry all winter. He learned a very hard lesson.

**Work hard today to get
ready for tomorrow.**



Questions

1. The first line of the story is:

'In a field one summer's day, a grasshopper was relaxing, eating as much grass as he could.'

Choose another word that you could use instead of 'eating'.

2. Why wouldn't the ant play with the grasshopper? Check one.

because he didn't want to

because he was busy collecting food for the winter

because he had to get home for tea

3. Who had the most food in the winter? Why?

4. The moral of the story is 'Work hard today to be prepared for tomorrow.' What else can we learn from the story?

5. The ant refused to share his food with the grasshopper at the end of the story. Was this the right thing to do? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. The first line of the story is:

'In a field one summer's day, a grasshopper was relaxing, eating as much grass as he could.'

Choose another word that you could use instead of 'eating'.

Accept various synonyms of 'eating', such as gobbling, chomping, munching, chewing, etc.

2. Why wouldn't the ant play with the grasshopper? Check one.

because he didn't want to

because he was busy collecting food for the winter

because he had to get home for tea

3. Who had the most food in the winter? Why?

The ant had the most food in the winter because he had collected and stored food in the summer.

4. The moral of the story is 'Work hard today to be prepared for tomorrow.' What else can we learn from the story?

Expect various answers, such as: try your best, work hard, be prepared, don't be lazy, listen to others.

5. The ant refused to share his food with the grasshopper at the end of the story. Was this the right thing to do? Explain your answer.

Expect various answers, such as: Yes, because the grasshopper didn't listen to him and called him silly; No, because he should have shown kindness and shared.