

Consider, and Be Wise

*“Go to the ant, you sluggard!
Consider her ways and be wise.”*

PROVERBS 6:6

The Bible mentions nine different kinds of insects. How many of them are you able to think of?

Here is the list of insects the Bible refers to: the ant, bee, flea, fly, gnat, grasshopper, hornet, locust, and the moth. If you are surprised that the spider didn't make the list, then remember spiders are not insects, but arachnids. Arachnids have two body parts while insects have three. Also, spiders have eight legs, while insects have only six.

Of the nine insects the Bible mentions, it instructs us to consider one in particular to gain wisdom. Proverbs 6:6 says, “Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise.”

I came across a fascinating story. It was about Mr. Royal Dixon, a naturalist, someone who studies plants and animals in nature.

Mr. Dixon came across a small, well-weeded rice patch out in the middle of a field. As he looked around, he couldn't find any other crops. He wondered, “What kind of farmer would plant his rice patch here?”

After taking a closer look, Mr. Dixon noticed ants! He noticed a line of ants

going back and forth carrying weeds and grass away from the rice patch. He came to the conclusion that the “farmer” must be the ants and decided he would observe their activity all the way through until harvest.

When harvest time arrived, Mr. Dixon watched this colony of diligent ants and was awed by what he observed. He saw ants stationed at the bottom of each ripened stalk of rice, while others climbed the stalks to cut loose the grain and drop it to the waiting workers below who carried it home. The ants continued this process until each stalk was fully harvested and then moved on to the next. It's not a wonder God encourages us to observe the ant!

What are your work habits like? Do you have to be told what to do, or when you see a task, you diligently work until it is completed? Take a walk into your backyard, in a park, or even on the sidewalk and find some ants to observe. See what you can learn from them.

When I think of ants, I think of two verses in the Bible, Ecclesiastes 9:10 and Colossians 3:23. Take a moment to look up these verses and consider the ways of the ants and be wise! 🐜

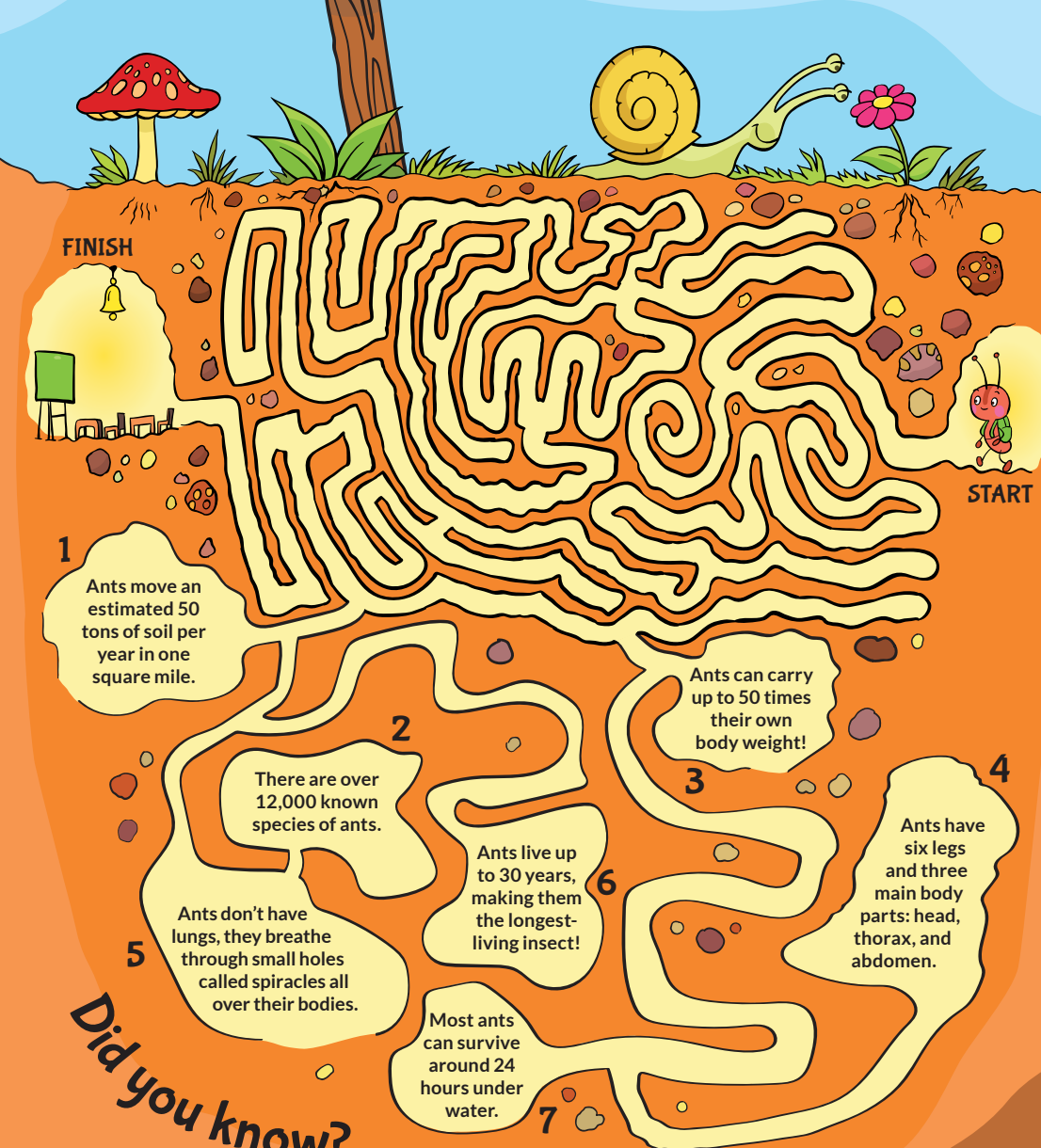
Watch a video of ants in action
at iiw.us/ants



Come play with Dexter!

Visit myplacewithjesus.com for more great stories and activities for kids!

Pip's A-MAZE-ing Day
Draw a line from start to finish to help little Pip find his way to school.



1

Ants move an estimated 50 tons of soil per year in one square mile.

2

There are over 12,000 known species of ants.

3

Ants can carry up to 50 times their own body weight!

4

Ants have six legs and three main body parts: head, thorax, and abdomen.

5

Ants don't have lungs, they breathe through small holes called spiracles all over their bodies.

6

Ants live up to 30 years, making them the longest-living insect!

7

Most ants can survive around 24 hours under water.

Did you know?



MELISSA BRADSHAW is the Director of Children's Ministries at It Is Written. Melissa and her husband, John Bradshaw, have two children and live in the Chattanooga, TN, area.