

The Grasshopper and the Ants

It was summer. The bright sun warmed the field. Grasshopper enjoyed 11
 the fine day. He hopped and sang and danced in the grass. At the 25
 edge of the field, Grasshopper saw a line of ants lugging corn and seeds. 39
 “I’m glad I found you,” said Grasshopper. “There are just enough of us to 53
 play baseball now!” The ants did not stop. “We don’t have time to play. 67
 We are getting food for winter. You would be smart to do the same.” 81
 Grasshopper couldn’t believe what he was hearing. “Winter! Why worry 91
 about winter? The cold won’t be here for a long, long time. Right now we 106
 have a beautiful summer day. We should have fun.” The ants kept going 119
 and Grasshopper hopped away. Summer faded into autumn. Autumn 128
 turned into winter. The grey days were short and the black nights were 141
 long. A thick blanket of snow covered the ground. Grasshopper couldn’t 152
 dig deep enough to find food. He was too frozen to sing and too hungry 167
 to dance. Not knowing what else to do, Grasshopper staggered to the 179
 ants’ hill. He pounded on the door. “I’m here to share your food and 193
 warm fire,” he said. The ants slammed the door in his face. 205

	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4
words read in 1 minute				
– number of mistakes				
= total words read correctly				
adult initials				

Parent Tips

Students often pause at the end of a line of text rather than waiting until the punctuation. Stopping mid-sentence has a negative effect on comprehension. Remind your child not to stop until reaching the punctuation. Model the difference between pausing at the end of the line and pausing at the punctuation.

1. Grasshopper spends his time _____.

- having fun
- working
- sleeping

2. Who worked hard in this story?

- the grasshopper
- the ants
- the cricket



3. In this fable, what lesson do you think Grasshopper learned?

- To play and sing all the time.
- To get in a fight with the ants.
- To do your work before playing.

4. Were the ants right to leave Grasshopper outside?