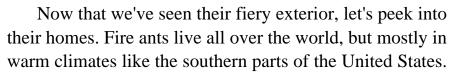
Imagine a tiny creature, dressed in a fiery red armor, no bigger than a grain of rice, meet the fire ant! These fascinating little critters have a reddish-brown color, almost like a tiny spark of fire. They are known for their distinctive mound-shaped nests, which they build using soil. And they've got a sting that's as fiery as their color, which is how they got their name.





They build large colonies in soil, with mounds that can be up to 18 inches high. Inside these mounds, they make a network of tunnels and chambers where they live and raise their young.

From their fiery houses, these little warriors venture out in search of food. They are omnivores, meaning they eat both plants and other small creatures. Their diet includes seeds, fruits, insects, and even small animals. In fact, they are known to attack in groups to take down larger prey.



Fire ants are not just interesting, they're also important players in the ecosystem. They help control pests by eating other insects and small animals. However, they can also be a nuisance to humans, as their stings are painful and can cause allergic reactions. So next time you see a mound in the ground, remember the fiery little warriors beneath, and keep a respectful distance.



### Solve each problem.

### Use the article to answer the question.

1) What choice is a color that fire ants may be?

A. brown B. yellow D. blue C. green

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A. by eating other insects and small B. by scaring away pests animals

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3) How do fire ants defend themselves?

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A. No B. Only in some people C. Yes D. Only in animals

**6)** What do fire ants use to build their nests?

A. twigs B. soil C. rocks D. leaves

7) Where do fire ants live mostly?

A. cold climates like the North Pole B. wet environments like marshes and swamps

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8) How big can a fire ant mound be?

A. up to 10 feet B. up to 3 inches C. up to 1 mile D. up to 18 inches

**9)** What is the size of a fire ant?

A. About the size of a golf ball B. About the size of a cell phone C. Microscopic D. About the size of a grain of rice

**10)** Which choice best describes fire ants diets?

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"Plants and small creatures, we consume them all, we are true omnivores."



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- 28) Fire ants help to control pests by eating other insects and small animals.
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- **30**) Fire ants are omnivores, they eat both plants and other creatures.
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- **32)** Fire ants build their homes in soil, forming mounds.
- **33**) Fire ants are more fun to learn about than regular ants.
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- 35) Fire ant colonies can be found in warm climates, like southern parts of the United States.
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- **38)** Fire ants may eat fruits and seeds.
- **39**) Unlike other ants, fire ants build their homes in the trees.
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- **45**) Fire ants are predators and only eat other insects.
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## Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

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#### Determine which choice is the conclusion that can be drawn from the statement.



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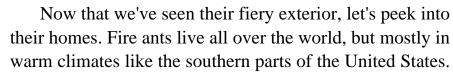
	Fi	re Ants	Name:	
			1,000	
1.	 26.	51.		
2.	 27.	52.		
3.	 28.	53.		
4.	 29.	54.		
5.	 30.	55.		
6.	 31.	56		
7.	 32.	57.		
8.	 33.	58.		
9.	 34.	59		
10.	 35.	60.		
11.	 36.	61.		
12.	 37.	62.		
13.	 38.	63.		
14.	 39.	64.		
15.	 40.	65.		
16.	 41.	66		
17.	 42.	67		
18.	 43.	68.		
19.	 44.	69.		
20.	 45.			
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22.	 47.			
23.	 48.			

Reading

24.

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Name:



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25.

true

false

**Answer Key** 

Name:

49.

50.

A

 $\mathbf{D}$ 



### Solve each problem.

U	se	the	article	to	answer	the	question.
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C. D.

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