



Hello there, friends! Today, we're gonna talk about some super cool creatures called army ants! These little guys, unlike other ants, don't build permanent nests. Instead, they're always on the move! They're pretty small, but don't be fooled! They can be up to an inch long and are usually reddish-brown or black. And here's a fun fact: the worker ants are blind! They find their way around by using their antennae.



Speaking of on the move, have you ever wondered where these army ants live? Well, they're mostly found in warm tropical regions like the Amazon Rainforest and Central and East Africa. But being a nomadic bunch, they often travel in massive groups, often containing millions of ants! And at night, they form a temporary nest, called a bivouac, by linking their bodies together. Cool, right?

Now, let's talk about what these little soldiers eat. Army ants are carnivorous, which means they love munching on other small creatures like insects, spiders, and even small vertebrates! They work together to capture their prey in a process called 'raid', where they form a wide front and sweep through the area. And guess what? Their queen is the most fertile of all ants and can lay up to 4 million eggs per month.



Finally, let's chat about their relationship with us humans and other animals. For us, army ants can be both helpful and harmful. They can help control pests, but their bites can also be painful. For other animals, army ants are very important. Some birds, called 'antbirds', follow army ants to feed on the insects they flush out during their raids. So there you have it, army ants are fascinating creatures that play a unique role in our world's ecosystem.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What is the color of army ants?
 - A. Green or blue
 - B. Yellow or white
 - C. Reddish-brown or black
 - D. Purple or pink

- 2) Can the bites of army ants be painful for humans?
 - A. Army ants do not bite
 - B. Only if you're allergic
 - C. Yes
 - D. No

- 3) Where can you mostly find army ants?
 - A. Cold snowy regions
 - B. Warm tropical regions
 - C. Muddy swamp regions
 - D. Dry desert regions

- 4) How many eggs can the queen of the army ants lay per month?
 - A. Up to 100,000
 - B. Up to 10 million
 - C. Up to 1 million
 - D. Up to 4 million

- 5) What is the process called when army ants work together to capture their prey?
 - A. Raid
 - B. Rush
 - C. Blitz
 - D. Charge

- 6) How long can army ants be?
 - A. Up to a yard long
 - B. Up to an inch long
 - C. Up to a meter long
 - D. Up to a foot long

- 7) How do army ants travel?
 - A. In massive groups
 - B. In pairs
 - C. Alone
 - D. In small groups

- 8) What is the temporary nest by army ants called?
 - A. Barrack
 - B. Bivouac
 - C. Bionest
 - D. Temp-home

- 9) Why are army ants important to 'antbirds'?
 - A. Antbirds feed on the insects flushed out by the ants
 - B. Antbirds use army ants to build their nests
 - C. Antbirds and army ants team up to fight predators
 - D. Army ants ride on the back of antbirds

- 10) What do army ants like to eat?
 - A. Wood and bark
 - B. Small creatures
 - C. Dirt and sand
 - D. Leaves and plants

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 11) "Here's a secret, my diet consists of small creatures like insects and spiders. I call myself a carnivore!"
- 12) "Many other ants build nests in the dirt, but not me."
- 13) "Our world is full of fascinating scents and sounds. Unfortunately we're basically blind and have to rely on our antennae to sense the world."
- 14) "We strictly follow a vegan diet."



- 15) "While you might see me moving around everywhere, I mostly stay in warm tropical areas like the Amazon Rainforest."
- 16) "Our queen is the least fertile among all ants."
- 17) "We usually sleep in cozy nests we've built for years."
- 18) "My brothers and sisters and I go on raids, where we form a wide front and sweep through an area to capture our prey."
- 19) "You probably shouldn't mess with us. We have a bite that can be very painful."
- 20) "I don't always stay in one place, I love to travel with my huge family of millions of other ants."
- 21) "I prefer to spend my days in cold places like the Arctic."
- 22) "We have some feathered friends who follow us around. They help clean up after our meals by eating the insects we scare up."
- 23) "We're often blue or green in color."
- 24) "Our queen is amazing! She lays millions of eggs every month."
- 25) "I live a solitary life, always keeping to myself."
- 26) "Our queen isn't that productive, she lays just a few eggs a month."
- 27) "At night, we make a cozy nest by linking our bodies together. It's our own little ant fort!"

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 28) The diet of army ants includes small creatures like insects and spiders.
- 29) Millions of army ants moving together is a terrifying sight.
- 30) During their travels, army ants often form groups consisting of millions of their kind.
- 31) It's fascinating that army ants find their way using only their antenna.
- 32) Unlike other ants, army ants do not construct permanent homes.
- 33) It's mind-boggling that a queen ant can lay up to 4 million eggs every month.
- 34) Army ant queens have the highest fertility rate among ants, laying up to 4 million eggs in a month.
- 35) Army ants usually inhabit warm tropical regions like the Amazon Rainforest and areas of Africa.
- 36) Army ants' temporary nests, called bivouac, are the most creative shelters in the insect world.
- 37) Being bitten by an army ant is the worst pain you can feel.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 38) Antbirds follow army ants.
- 39) Antbirds are army ants that have grown their wings.
- 40) Army ants live in warm tropical regions.
- 41) Army ants are primarily found in the cold areas of north Canada.
- 42) Army ants form temporary nests by linking their bodies together.
- 43) Most army ants are up to two inches long.
- 44) Army ants build nests that can be larger than a football field.
- 45) The queen of the army ants will only lay 2 eggs in her lifetime.
- 46) Army ants can be harmful to humans because their bites can be painful.
- 47) Army ants are blind.

Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.



Army Ants

Name: _____

1. _____ 26. _____ 51. _____
2. _____ 27. _____ 52. _____
3. _____ 28. _____ 53. _____
4. _____ 29. _____ 54. _____
5. _____ 30. _____ 55. _____
6. _____ 31. _____ 56. _____
7. _____ 32. _____ 57. _____
8. _____ 33. _____ 58. _____
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|-----|-----------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | <u> C </u> | 26. | <u> Not </u> | 51. | <u> A </u> |
| 2. | <u> C </u> | 27. | <u> Would </u> | 52. | <u> C </u> |
| 3. | <u> B </u> | 28. | <u> fact </u> | 53. | <u> declarative </u> |
| 4. | <u> D </u> | 29. | <u> opinion </u> | 54. | <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 5. | <u> A </u> | 30. | <u> fact </u> | 55. | <u> declarative </u> |
| 6. | <u> B </u> | 31. | <u> opinion </u> | 56. | <u> interrogative </u> |
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| 12. | <u> Would </u> | 37. | <u> opinion </u> | | |
| 13. | <u> Would </u> | 38. | <u> true </u> | | |
| 14. | <u> Not </u> | 39. | <u> false </u> | | |
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| 16. | <u> Not </u> | 41. | <u> false </u> | | |
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| 23. | <u> Not </u> | 48. | <u> B </u> | | |
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