

# ANTS

Misunderstood Animals: #14

## Animal Type:

- ☐ Amphibian
- ☐ Bird
- ☐ Fish
- ☒ Invertebrate
- ☐ Mammal
- ☐ Reptile

## Diet:

- ☐ Carnivore
- ☐ Scavenger
- ☒ Omnivore

## Habitat:

- ☒ Desert
- ☒ Grassland
- ☒ Forest
- ☐ Polar
- ☐ Marine
- ☒ Urban

## Basic stats:

Number of species: 15,000+ (792 N America)

Largest: Giant forest Ant (worker ~1 inch)

Smallest: Carebara bruni (worker ~1mm)

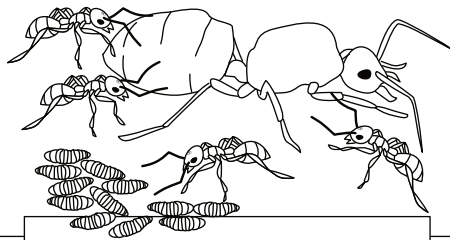
Number of Ants: 20 Quadrillion (at least)

Group name: army, colony, nest, swarm

Lifespan: Queens can live up to 30 years

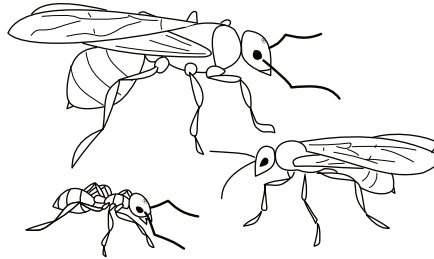
## FACT OR FICTION?

Most of the time, the ants in an ant colony are all female



Fact

All the ant castes (queens, workers and drones) can sting



Fiction

Myrmecophytes are plants that have a mutualistic relationship with an ant colony



Fact

These powerful jaws are used for many jobs like hunting, carrying objects, and defense

This flexible joint connects the abdomen to the thorax and is vital for defense and balance

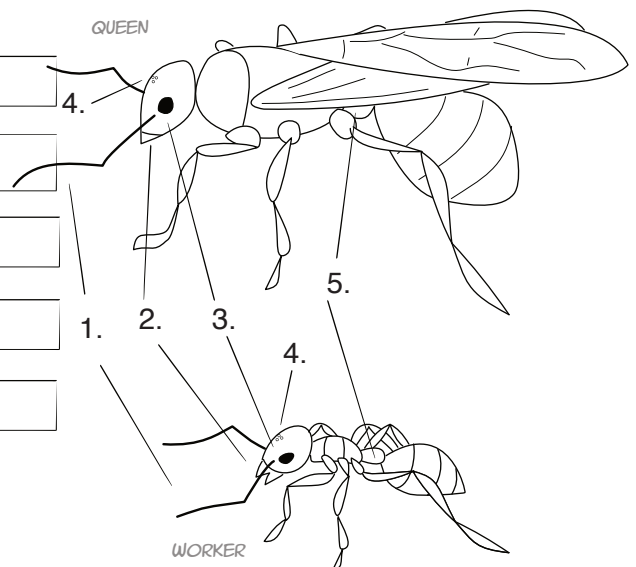
Fifty to 1,000+ ommatidia work together to detect movement, light and dark, and their immediate surroundings with great detail

These sensory organs help navigate, find food, and communicate through smell, touch, and detecting vibrations

These simple sensors detect changes in light intensity for balance and navigation

Match each feature with its corresponding function:

- 1 Antennae
- 2 Mandibles
- 3 Compound eyes
- 4 Ocelli
- 5 Petiole



## Favorite Ant Fact: