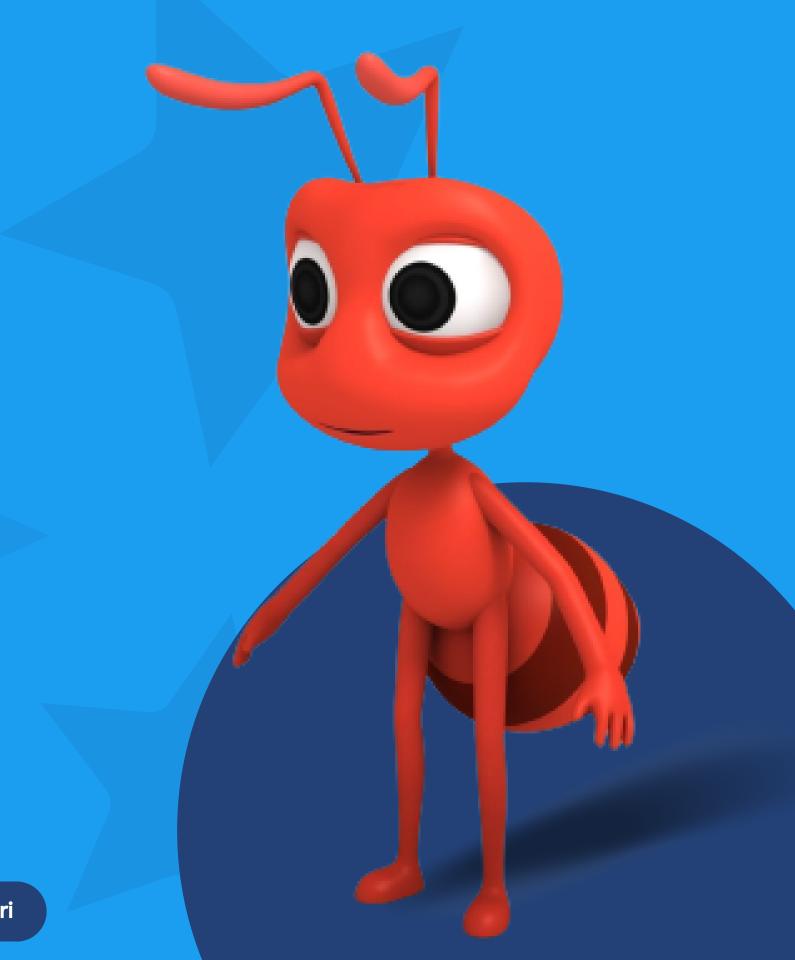
PRELOAD IN <LINK>

What is rel="preload" in link tag?



- What does preload do?
- => In simple terms, It helps the browser know about important resources that will be needed by the page, without delaying the page's "onload" event.

Syntax:

<link rel="preload" href="http://font.com" as="font" />

- → How does it work?
- => Resources loaded via link rel="preload"> are stored locally in the browser, and are effectively inert until they're referenced in the DOM, JavaScript, or CSS.

- => The "as" attribute used in link> element, is to give the browser more context about the destination of the preloading request being made.
- => This additional information ensures that the browser will set appropriate request headers and requests higher priority.

- What is the benefit of pre-load?
- => The browser can set the right resource priority, hence will load accordingly, and will not delay more important resources, nor tag along behind less important resources.
- => The browser can make sure that the request is subject to the right Content-Security-Policy directives, and doesn't go out to the server if it shouldn't.

- => The browser can send the appropriate Accept headers based on the resource type. (e.g. advertise support for "image/webp" when fetching images)
- => The browser knows the resource type, thus determines if resource could be reused for future requests that need the same resource.
- => Thus, ultimately it is helpful in improving website performance.



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