

Go to the Ant . . .



Proverbs 6:6
Proverbs 30:25

Facts



- There are estimated 20,000 different species of ants.
- Ants have 250,000 brain cells!
- Their life span is about 45-60 days.
- They have an exoskeleton which is like an armor
- This helps them lift about 20 times their weight!

Facts



- Ants as most insects “breathe” through the spiracles (pores) of their skin.
- They are fast runners for their size
- They are social insects and live in colonies which are highly organized and kept cleanly.
- They communicate with chemical signals, sound, and touch.









3 Types in each colony



- The Queen
- Male
- Worker (female)

Queen (female)



Male



Worker (female)



Queen Ants



- They are much larger than the rest and spend most of their lives laying eggs.



Male Ants



- The only time you will see one of these is during mating time, because they die shortly after this.



Worker Ants



- These are the ants that we see the majority of the time. They gather food, collect building material, clean the nest, raise offspring or protect the territory.



Worker Ant



3 Types of ants



Ants learn!



- Many animals can learn behaviours by imitation, but ants may be the only group apart from mammals where interactive teaching has been observed. A knowledgeable forager of *Temnothorax albipennis* will lead a naive nest-mate to newly discovered food by the process of tandem running. The follower obtains knowledge through its leading tutor. The leader is acutely sensitive to the progress of the follower and slows down when the follower lags and speeds up when the follower gets too close.[\[87\]](#)
- Controlled experiments with colonies of *Cerapachys biroi* suggest that an individual may choose nest roles based on her previous experience. An entire generation of identical workers was divided into two groups whose outcome in food foraging was controlled. One group was continually rewarded with prey, while it was made certain that the other failed. As a result, members of the successful group intensified their foraging attempts while the unsuccessful group ventured out fewer and fewer times. A month later, the successful foragers continued in their role while the others had moved to specialise in brood care.[\[88\]](#)