



## ANIMALS OF THE WORLD

# Ants and Other Social Insects

What does an ant nest look like? Why do honey bees dance? How can you tell the difference between a termite and an ant? Read *Ants and Other Social Insects* to find out!

### What did you learn?

#### QUESTIONS

- One example of a social insect is a ...
  - Ladybug
  - Stink bug
  - Spider
  - Ant
- Most ants can lift ...
  - 50 times their body weight
  - 60 times their body weight
  - 70 times their body weight
  - 80 times their body weight
- At one time, there may be up to ...
  - 65,000 bees living in a single hive
  - 70,000 bees living in a single hive
  - 75,000 bees living in a single hive
  - 80,000 bees living in a single hive
- Paper wasps live in ...
  - Feather nests
  - Stick nests
  - Paper nests
  - Grass
- What is *nectar*?
- What kind of honey bees are *drones*?

#### TRUE OR FALSE?

- There are about 10,000 species of ants.
- The worker ants usually live longer than the queen.
- All worker ants are male.
- Leaf-cutter ants build huge nests that can have a thousand chambers and tunnel down 20 feet.
- Pollen sticks to a bee's hairy body and hind legs.
- Termites live in Africa, Australia, Asia, and South America.



## ANSWERS

- 1. d. Ant.** According to section "What Is a Social Insect?" on page 6, we know that "Ants are social insects." So, the correct answer is D.
- 2. a. 50 times their body weight.** According to section "Why Do Ants Have Tiny Waists?" on page 22, we know that "Many ants can lift 50 times their body weight!" So, the correct answer is A.
- 3. d. 80,000 bees living in a single hive.** According to section "What Is Buzzing in the Hive?" on page 36, we know that "Up to 80,000 of these hairy brown, black, and gold striped bees may live in a hive." So, the correct answer is D.
- 4. c. Paper nests.** According to section "Where Do Paper Wasps Live?" on page 48, we know that "Paper wasps live in paper nests, of course!" So, the correct answer is C.
- 5.** According to page 63, *nectar* is "Sweet liquid produced by some plants."
- 6.** According to page 38, *drones* are "stingless males that live just long enough to mate with queens."

## TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

- 1. True.** According to section "Where in the World Do Social Insects Live?" on page 8, we know that "There are about 10,000 species of ants." So, the correct answer is True.
- 2. False.** According to section "Who's Who in an Ant Colony?" on page 12, we know that "The reason is that only the queens in most species of ants can reproduce. They also live the longest—10 to 20 years." So, the correct answer is False.
- 3. False.** According to section "What Do Worker Ants Do?" on page 18, we know that "All workers are female." So, the correct answer is False.
- 4. True.** According to section "Which Ants Farm the Fungus?" on page 30, we know that "Leaf-cutters build huge colonies. Their nests can have a thousand chambers and tunnel down 20 feet (6 meters)." So, the correct answer is True.
- 5. True.** According to section "What Is So Sweet About Honey Bees?" on page 40, we know that "When a honey bee buzzes from flower to flower, it collects more than just nectar. Pollen sticks to its hairy body and hind legs." So, the correct answer is True.
- 6. True.** According to section "How High Is a Termite Tower?" on page 54, we know that "These master builders live in Africa, Australia, Asia, and South America." So, the correct answer is True.