



A Lesson on The Ants and the Grasshopper by Mary Hannah Sivyier

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 45 minutes

Lesson Keywords: lessonfarm.com, ants, grasshoppers, writing, reading

Lesson Description: A reading and writing lesson that discusses morals and hard work in a fun way that children can easily understand.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1: Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3: Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

Lesson Content: Book/Story/Reading Passage

Instructions: Please read the following reading passage as many times as needed (aloud and silent) before starting to go through other lesson pages. Understanding the content of this passage is very important since the lesson activities will be all about this content. Feel free to print the passage if needed.

The Ants and the Grasshopper

by

Content: It is wintertime. The weather is cold, but the ants are doing fine. They have their warm home, and they have a lot of food to eat. They can wait for the warm weather in spring. The reason the ants have a lot of food is because they worked in the summer. So now they have grain to eat.

Grain is a kind of plant. People plant it and cut it and then they use it to make bread. The ants get the grain in summer, because that is when grain grows. The ants live in the fields where the grain grows. When the wind blows, some grain falls and the ants rush to get it. They do not eat it right then. They save it because they need to be able to have food in the winter months when plants do not grow. This goes on all summer.

The ants work hard every day. They pick up the grain, they carry it to their home. Every ant helps. Each ant carries one piece of grain. It is hard work. They carry more than they need to eat every day. They carry grain they will eat in winter, too. They play sometimes, but most of the time they work.

The grasshoppers live near the ants, and they love summer. They hop and play and they laugh at the ants. They say, We have fun every day while you work every day. Come and play. You can get grain later. But the ants say, No, we have to work.

Soon it is winter, and the grasshoppers are cold. They are hungry, too. They do not have food to eat. Since they played all summer, they did not save food for winter.

One day, a grasshopper came to see the ants and he was very hungry. Please, ants, could you help me a little bit? I am just so hungry! said the grasshopper.

The ants asked him, Why didnt you work in summer? We did. Remember, how you played while we worked? You made fun of us and said, All work and no play is no good. Well, now we have food and you are hungry.

The grasshopper said, I didn't have the time. The weather was so lovely that I spent all the days singing. I couldnt help but have fun. We had such a good time.

The ants said, We are sorry you have no food. We have a lot because we worked hard. You have none because you played. But, we will give you some food because we are good, kind neighbors. We want you to live, so we will help you now. But learn from us. Playing is a lot of fun. But you need to work to live.

The grasshopper thanked the ants. The grasshopper had learned a lesson. It is fun to play, but you need to save for winter, too. You need to work if you want to eat. Next summer, he would work and play, too, just like the ants.

Task 1: Vocabulary

Instructions: Please complete the following vocabulary activity by choosing the correct meaning of each word selected from the passage and use of each word correctly in a sentence.

Q: 1 WordPhrase: Grain **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in our story says, "When the wind blows, some grain falls and the ants rush to get it. They do not eat it right then." Why do the ants not eat the grain right then?

- A: They are not hungry.
- B: They do not like to eat grain.
- C: They are saving it so they won't be hungry in the winter.
- D: The grain has to be saved for a birthday celebration.

Question: Which one of the sentences below uses the word "grain" correctly?

- A: I had a grain day.
- B: Grain said hello to me after school.
- C: Do you want to grain with me so we can earn some extra points?
- D: The ants pick up grain all summer.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: Grasshoppers **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author of our story says, "They say, 'We have fun every day while you work every day. Come and play. You can get grain later.'". Who does the author say plays and has fun every day?

- A: The grasshoppers.
- B: The ants.
- C: The bugs that live far away.
- D: The grain.

Question: Which one of the sentences below uses the word grasshoppers correctly?

- A: The computer is grasshopper.
- B: Grasshoppers like to play and have fun.
- C: I grasshopper you.
- D: You don't want me to grasshopper on you.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: work **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: Read the passage from the story and answer the question.
The ants asked him, "Why didn't you work in summer? We did. Remember, how you played while we worked? You made fun of us and said, 'All work and no play is no good.' Well, now we have food and you are hungry. Why are the grasshoppers hungry now?"

- A: They are not hungry.
- B: They do not like to eat.
- C: They didn't work in the summer to collect grain.
- D: They already ate all of their food.

Question: Choose the sentence below that uses "work" correctly.

- A: I work hard to make money.
- B: Work would you like to drink?
- C: Did you have a work?
- D: I work love to have some chocolate.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: Kind **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in the story says, "...But, we will give you some food because we are good, kind neighbors. We want you to live, so we will help you now. But learn from us. Playing is a lot of fun. But you need to work to live."

What makes the ants good, kind neighbors?

- A: They are going to give the grasshoppers some food.
- B: They water the grasshoppers plants.
- C: They take care of the grasshoppers' dog when they are away.
- D: They take out the trash for their neighbors.

Question: Which one of the sentences below uses the word "kind" correctly?

- A: You kind like Mickey Mouse!
- B: Being kind is part of being a good neighbor.
- C: I like your kind colored notebook.
- D: Would you like to go eat kind with me?

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Task 2: Forum Discussion

Instructions: This discussion forum will have questions for students to respond. Read the posted questions, and respond to each. Students are responsible for posting one initial and two peer responses for each topic.

1 - What Lesson Did The Grasshopper Learn?

What does the grasshopper say at the end of the story that tells you that he learned a lesson? Do you think that he will change his ways by next summer? Explain your answer.?

2 - Should The Ants Have Helped?

Do you think the ants should have helped the grasshopper when he was hungry even though he did not work all summer? Why or why not?

3 - Why Didn't The Ants Play At All?

Do you think the ants should have taken some time to play? They worked all summer... Did they deserve a break?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post here 500 words essay on why working hard is important.... Make sure to provide specific examples from our story that help to prove your point.?

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