



## A Lesson on The Ants and the Grasshopper by Nancy Rodriguez

**Grade Level:** Grade 3

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts

**Lesson Length:** 2 hours

**Lesson Keywords:** Reading, Writing

**Lesson Description:** This lesson is to give students the opportunity to use the reading and writing and using the text to help them identify words and phrases. Focusing on their reading through a series of questions and discussion about the text, students will identify how and why its important to work hard.

### 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.W.3.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4a: Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

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## 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.

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## 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:** Reason **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** "The reason the ants have a lot of food is because they worked in the summer." What does the word reason mean in this sentence?

- A: a event
- B: to think
- C: an action
- D: a cause

**Question:** Which one of the sentence below uses the word "reason" correctly?

- A: We cannot understand it nor the reason of it.
- B: War occurs for a very simple reason.
- C: They have good reason to be happy.
- D: The minister resigned for personal reasons

**Q: 2 WordPhrase:** Weather **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** "The weather was so lovely that I spent all the days singing." what does the word weather mean?

- A: the day-to-day conditions of place
- B: The temperature
- C: The climate
- D: The humidity

**Question:** Which one of the sentence below uses the word "weather" correctly?

- A: I know our family will weather this storm, and then things will get back to normal.
- B: I checked the news to find out the weather for tomorrow.
- C: The lost dog weathered five nights in the bitter cold before his owners found him.
- D: I am not sure whether or not to fly to Ohio for my cousin?s wedding.

**Q: 3 WordPhrase:** Rush to get it **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** The author in our story says, "When the wind blows, some grain falls and the ants rush to get it." What does the word "rush to get it" mean in this sentence?

- A: Walk slow
- B: Fly
- C: Move fast
- D: Do not move

**Question:** Which one of the sentence below uses the word "rush to get it" correctly?

- A: The book rush to get it.
- B: The pillows rush to get it.
- C: The rocks rush to get it.
- D: The dogs rush to get it.

**Q: 4 WordPhrase:** Lovely **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** The author in our story says "The weather is so lovely" What does the word "lovely" mean in this sentence?

- A: beautiful
- B: mean
- C: ugly
- D: sick

**Question:** Which one of the sentence below uses the word "lovely" correctly?

- A: we are cooking lovely for dinner.
- B: you have lovely eyes.
- C: the kids went to the lovely for lunch
- D: can you drive to the lovely?

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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 and two peer responses for each topic.

1 - What was the main purpose of this passage?

What did the ants want the grasshopper to know about working?

2 - Work hard play hard

what was the lesson the ate gave the grasshopper?

3 - What is grain?

What did the ants use grain for?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

**Instructions:** You are to write and post here 200 words on some examples how you work hard and then play after working.?Make sure to provide specific examples.

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