

Snap Science Lesson: Who's the Boss of the Anthill?

LIFE SCIENCES

Get curious

Observing

Go outside and observe what ants look like and how they behave and also what the anthills they live in look like.



Before the class, walk around the area where an anthill is located and which you have chosen for the lesson.



Source: [flickr](#)

Get going

Talk

Talk about how an anthill functions: what are the roles of particular ants.

The students already know what an anthill looks like. Now ask them, how they think: Can an ant live independently outside of the anthill? Who is the most important ant in an anthill? What does she look like? What does she do? What other ants live in the anthill? What do the workers do? What do the soldiers do?



Source: [flickr](#)

Role-playing

The students act out the role of ants from different castes, pretending to be the queen, the workers and soldiers in different situations that ants encounter.



Summary

Exchange impressions and sum up the anthill game.

You can ask the students: What can we compare the life/functioning of an anthill with? How many different groups (castes) of ants are there in an anthill and what do they do? If one ant is doing something wrong, or is working poorly, is everything still OK?

Get practicing

Observing

The students learn how other animals live in a group.

They can observe animals living in a group, e.g. in a meadow, a park or a forest. Alternately, they can use the internet or watch a wildlife film. They should choose one species of animal living in a group and prepare to give a short talk about how these animals' lives are made easier by forming groups.
