



Ants on a Twig

Science – Grade 1-3

Students go outside to observe ant behavior.

Materials:

- Small magnifying glasses
- Paper plate, divided into quarters with a marker
- Food items (meat, peanut butter, cheese, bread, grass, moldy leaves, etc)

Instructions:

1. Take the children outdoors for an “ant hunt.”
2. Look for an anthill, ants in the yard, bugs under rocks, etc.
3. Place your choice of food items in each section of the paper plate and put it near the ants. Allow time for the ants to locate the food. As the children are waiting, have them make predictions about the ants and what food they will eat. Create a chart if applicable. Spend time observing the ants and their behavior. What do their bodies look like? How do they communicate? Which food do they prefer?
4. Allow time for ant and bug observations.
5. Upon returning to the classroom, discuss what foods the ants ate. Review the parts of an ant. Point out that all ants have three body parts and six legs.