



# Readers' Theater



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## The Ant and the Grasshopper



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Each reader's part is highlighted in color.

### List of Characters

(in order of appearance)

- Group 1: Green
- Group 2: Blue
- Grasshopper: Light Blue
- Group 3: Orange
- Ant: Purple
- All: Red

When the characters speak in unison, it is noted as **All**.



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# The Ant and the Grasshopper

**Group 3:** Ant felt sorry for Grasshopper.

**Group 1:** So Ant welcomed Grasshopper into his home. He gave Grasshopper food to eat.

**Ant:** You may share what we have. But I hope you have learned your lesson.

**Grasshopper:** Never again will I dance and play when there is work to be done.

**Group 2:** From that day on, Grasshopper worked first, then he played.

**All:** The time to play is after the work is done.



**Group 1:** Once there was a grasshopper who was having fun.

**Group 2:** It was a warm spring day, and he was hopping from flower to flower.

**Grasshopper:** What a wonderful day! The sun is shining. Flowers are blooming everywhere. I can play all day long!



**Group 3:** While Grasshopper was playing, he saw an ant. Ant was carrying some grass on his back.

**Grasshopper:** Hello, Ant! What a wonderful day. Why don't you come and play with me?

**Ant:** I have no time to play. I'm helping my brothers and sisters store food for winter! Instead of playing, you should do the same!



**Group 1:** Grasshopper went to the house where Ant lived.

**Group 2:** He could see that Ant and his brothers and sisters were warm and had plenty of food to eat.

**Grasshopper:** Please, Ant, please! It's your old friend, Grasshopper! I played when I should have worked. Now it is cold, and I have no food to eat. Please help me.



**Group 1:** The cold days of winter came at last. Grasshopper was too cold and too hungry to play.

**Group 2:** Everywhere he looked, there was no food to be found.

**Group 3:** There was no food growing in the fields. There was no fruit on the trees.

**Grasshopper:** There's nothing but snow everywhere I look. I can't eat snow. What am I going to do?



**Group 1:** Grasshopper laughed at Ant's words.

**Grasshopper:** Why should I work to store food?

**Ant:** Everyone needs food!

**Grasshopper:** Yes, but it's springtime! All the plants are growing. There is food to eat everywhere you look! Why work so hard when you could have fun like me?



**Group 1:** The days grew longer and warmer.  
Soon it was summer.  
Grasshopper played music  
and swam in a pond.

**Grasshopper:** Oh, what a wonderful day!  
The sun is bright and hot. The  
air smells like flowers. I can play  
music and sing all day!



**Group 3:** Ant watched Grasshopper and  
shook his head.

**Ant:** Oh, dear. Don't you ever learn?  
It's true that fall is beautiful.  
But winter will soon be here.  
You should be working to get  
ready for the cold weather!

**Grasshopper:** There is still food to eat.  
These pumpkins are full of tasty  
seeds! Why waste your time  
working when you could have fun  
like me?



**Group 1:** Soon the hot days of summer ended and fall came. The leaves started to drop from the trees.

**Group 2:** Grasshopper played in the fields. Along came Ant, who was as busy as ever.

**Grasshopper:** Hello, Ant! What a beautiful day! The air is cool, and I am playing in the leaves. Won't you join me?



**Group 2:** While Grasshopper was playing, Ant came by again. This time, Ant was pulling a giant ear of corn.

**Grasshopper:** Hello, Ant! What a beautiful summer day. Why don't you come and dance to my music?

**Ant:** I have no time to dance. I'm helping my brothers and sisters store food for winter. Instead of having fun, you should do the same!



**Group 3:** Grasshopper laughed at Ant's words.

**Grasshopper:** There you go again. Work, work, work—that's all you ever do. Don't you know how to have fun?

**Ant:** I will have fun when my work is done!

**Grasshopper:** Yes, but it's summer! The fields are full of corn, wheat, and beans. Fruit is hanging on the trees. Why work so hard when you can have fun like me?

