

# The Ant and the Grasshopper



One summer day, a grasshopper hops into a field. He sings happily because it is a beautiful summer day. He sees an ant pass by. The ant is working hard. It is carrying some corn to its home.



grasshopper

“Why don’t you stay and chat with me?” asks the grasshopper. “That corn looks heavy. Why are you carrying it?”



ant

“I’m saving food for the winter,” answers the ant. “I recommend that you do the same thing. Then, you will have plenty of food for the winter.”

“Winter?” says the grasshopper. “Why worry about that? We have lots of food right now. And winter is a long time away.”

## Stop & Think

Why does the ant work hard every day?

## KEY WORDS

- **hop** to jump
- **recommend** to advise
- **gather** to collect
- **disappear** to vanish
- **look over** to look around
- **pass by** to go by
- **a long time away** far in the future
- **completely** entirely; totally
- **discover** to see; to realize
- **prepare for** to be ready for; to get ready for

The ant leaves the grasshopper. The ant works hard every day, so it gathers lots of food. After a while, the ant completely fills its house with food.

Meanwhile, the grasshopper stays in the field. But he does not work at all. Instead, he plays and sings every day.

Soon, summer turns to fall, and fall turns to winter. When the weather gets colder, the food starts to disappear. The grasshopper discovers that he has no food to eat. He looks over at the ant's house. The ant has plenty of food and a nice, warm house. The grasshopper realizes how foolish he was.

That winter, there is lots of snow. Later, when spring arrives, the ant comes out of its house. The ant had enough food during winter. Now, it is ready to start gathering food for the next winter. When the ant looks around the field, there is no sign of the grasshopper.

- *Moral: Work hard today to prepare for tomorrow.*

be ready for



carry



plenty of



weather

### Stop & Think

What does the grasshopper do every day?

**CHECK UP** Choose the right words.

- 1 The ant \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of food for the winter. (gathers | eats)
- 2 In winter, the \_\_\_\_\_ has no food to eat. (grasshopper | ant)
- 3 The grasshopper realizes how \_\_\_\_\_ he was. (fun | foolish)
- 4 Is the grasshopper in the field in the next spring? (Yes | No)

### GRAMMAR POINT

**see + O(object) + V(verb)**

- He **sees** an ant **pass** by.

# The Ant and the Grasshopper

One summer day, / a grasshopper / hops into a field. He sings happily / because it is / a beautiful summer day. He sees an ant / pass by. The ant is working hard. It is carrying some corn / to its home.

“Why don’t you stay and chat / with me?” asks the grasshopper. “That corn looks heavy. Why are you carrying it?”

“I’m saving food / for the winter,” answers the ant. “I recommend / that you do the same thing. Then, / you will have / plenty of food / for the winter.”

“Winter?” says the grasshopper. “Why worry about that? We have lots of food / right now. And winter is / a long time away.”

The ant leaves the grasshopper. The ant works hard / every day, / so it gathers / lots of food. After a while, / the ant completely / fills its house / with food.

Meanwhile, / the grasshopper / stays in the field. But he does not work / at all. Instead, / he plays and sings / every day.

Soon, / summer turns to fall, / and fall turns to winter. When the weather gets colder, / the food starts to disappear. The grasshopper discovers / that he has no food / to eat. He looks over / at the ant’s house. The ant has plenty of food / and a nice, warm house. The grasshopper realizes / how foolish he was.

That winter, / there is / lots of snow. Later, / when spring arrives, / the ant comes out of its house. The ant had enough food / during winter. Now, / it is ready / to start gathering food / for the next winter. When the ant looks around the field, / there is / no sign of the grasshopper.

• Moral: Work hard today / to prepare for tomorrow.

- hop 跳 • pass by 經過 • carry 扛 • stay 留 • save 積存 • recommend 建議
- plenty of 足夠的 • a long time away 很遙遠(時間) • gather 收集
- completely 完全地 • meanwhile 同時 • get colder 變冷 • disappear 消失
- discover 發現 • look over 看到 • realize 明白 • foolish 愚蠢的
- be ready to . . . 準備 • sign 蹤跡 • prepare for . . . 為……做準備

## CLOSE UP

- 1 **Why don’t you stay and chat with me?** 你何不留下來和我聊天呢？  
〈Why don’t you . . . ?〉是「你為什麼不去做……呢？」的意思，表建議或勸誘。
- 2 **plenty of food** 足夠的食物 / **lots of food** 很多食物 / **lots of snow** 很多雪  
〈plenty of . . . 〉和〈lots of . . . 〉兩個都是「很多……」的意思。
- 3 **fills its house with food** 家裡堆滿了食物  
〈fill . . . with . . . 〉是「用……填滿……」的意思。
- 4 **it is ready to start gathering food** 開始要為下一個冬天收集食物  
〈be ready to . . . 〉是「準備好要去做……」、「隨時都可以去做……」的意思。



## 螞蟻和蚱蜢



夏天的某一天 **one summer day**，一隻蚱蜢 **a grasshopper** 跳進田裡 **hop into a field**，因為那一天是一個美麗的夏日 **a beautiful summer day**，他很高興地唱著歌 **sing happily**，看到一隻螞蟻 **an ant** 經過 **pass by**，那隻螞蟻很辛勤地工作 **work hard**，扛著穀粒回家 **carry some corn to its home**。

「你何不留下來 **stay** 和我 **with me** 聊天 **chat** 呢？」蚱蜢問，「那顆穀粒 **that corn** 看起來很重 **look heavy**，你為什麼要扛著它呢？」

「我在為冬天 **for the winter** 積存食物 **save food**」螞蟻回答。「我建議你也這麼做 **do the same thing**，這樣，你才有足夠的食物 **have plenty of food** 可以過冬。」

「冬天？」蚱蜢說，「幹嘛 **why** 擔心那個 **worry about that**？我們現在 **right now** 有很多食物 **have lots of food** 啊，冬天還很遙遠 **a long time away**。」

螞蟻離開蚱蜢 **leave the grasshopper** 以後，每天 **every day** 辛勤地工作，所以他收集了很多食物 **gather lots of food**，過一陣子 **after a while**，螞蟻家裡堆滿了食物 **fill its house with food**。

同時 **meanwhile**，蚱蜢留在田野裡 **stay in the field**，但他完全沒工作，反而每天玩耍和唱歌 **play and sing**。

不久 **soon**，夏天變成秋天 **turn to fall**，秋天變成冬天 **turn to winter**，當天氣 **the weather** 變冷 **get colder**，食物 **the food** 也開始消失 **disappear** 了，蚱蜢這才發現 **discover** 他沒有食物可以吃 **have no food to eat**，他看到螞蟻的家 **look over at the ant's house**，螞蟻有很多食物，他的家又好又溫暖 **a nice, warm house**，蚱蜢明白了 **realize** 他之前有多愚蠢 **how foolish**。

那個冬天 **that winter** 下了很多雪 **lots of snow**，之後 **later**，當春天來臨 **spring arrives**，螞蟻走出他的家 **come out of its house**，冬天的時候 **during winter** 他有足夠的食物 **have enough food** 可以吃，現在他準備好要為下一個冬天 **for the next winter** 收集食物 **gather food** 了。螞蟻在田野間四處查看 **look around the field**，卻再也看不見蚱蜢的蹤跡 **no sign of the grasshopper** 了。

- 寓意：今日辛勤的工作是為明日作準備 **prepare for tomorrow**。

### GRAMMAR POINT

**see + 受詞 + 原形動詞**：看到……做了……

⇒ 像 **see**（看）、**hear**（聽）這樣的感官動詞，受詞後要接原形動詞。

- He **sees** an ant **pass by**. 他看到一隻螞蟻經過。
- All the animals **heard** the hare **brag** many times. 所有動物都聽膩了兔子說的大話。