

LESSON No. 18



A SHELTER FOR EVERYONE

All of us have houses or shelters to live in. Our houses are located in a village, hamlet, colony or a neighbourhood. We live together as we are dependent on one another and help each other during difficult times. By living together, we share the resources available there. Living together provides us security, too. We celebrate our joys together and share our sorrows. This is how we lead a social life.



We are dependent on so many people for our needs in the locality. Find out the following:

1. We depend on them for food _____
2. They make/mend our clothes _____
3. They make our furniture _____
4. They deliver our letters _____

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5.They protect us from thieves and robbers _____

6.They treat us when we are sick _____

Since man cannot lead a solitary life and live in isolation, he is called a social animal.

Activity:

1.Find out who are living next to your house and what they do

2.Have you ever taken help from them? What are they?

Do you know that there are also other creatures which lead a social life?

Some insects live together and work together.

Name three insects which live in a colony.

Have you seen insects living and working together?

Some varieties of ants, bees and termites live in colonies.

These insects are known as social insects.
They form social organization.



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A team of ants can carry comparatively bigger food item for their colony.

Who are the members of an ant colony? In an ant colony do all the ants do the same type of duty? Observe it minutely. In a colony there are several thousands of ants.

The members of the colony are divided into three classes. They are:



(a) Worker ants or soldiers



(b) Queen Ant



(c) Drones (males)

All worker ants are females. What is the duty of the worker ant? The worker ants collect food, look after the eggs and clean their nest. They do not have wings.

Queen ants lay eggs. To lay eggs is the duty of the queen ant. It has wings.

Male ants are only a few in number in a colony. They have wings.

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Like ants bees also live in organised groups. A bee colony has one queen, some drones and many workers.

Drones are male bees. They do not work or sting. Worker bees are female. They do all the works of the colony. They collect nectar from flowers. They chew it and turn into honey. Worker bees produce wax. They make their hive. Have you seen a bee hive? What is the shape of bee hive? Their hives are shaped into hexagonal shapes. It has six angles. The cells are called combs. The cells are used to keep the eggs. And the eggs are nursed up to larvae. Some cells are used to store honey. It is the food of the members of the colony. During rainy season and other time when the bees can not work they use the stored food.



ACTIVITY

1. Watch a movie like, “A Bug’s Life” or “More Than Honey”. Learn how duties are distributed among the ants and bees in the respective movies. Share your learnings in the classroom.