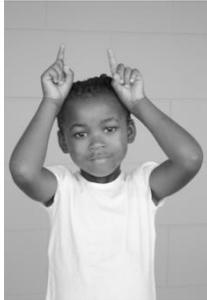


Ant	Sound	Action
	<p>As in <u>clap</u></p>	 <p>Forefingers pointing upwards like two antennae</p>

General knowledge facts:

- *Type of animal:* Insect.
- *Collective name:* A colony or army of ants.
- *Male/female/baby:* Male, females (either the queen or workers), and larvae.
- *Habitat:* More than 10,000 known ant species occur around the world. They are found mainly in hot climates and are especially prevalent in tropical forests, where they may make up half of all the insects living in some locations. Ants are social insects and typically live in structured nest communities that may be located underground, in ground-level mounds, or in trees. Carpenter ants nest in wood and can be destructive to buildings. Some species, such as army ants do not have permanent homes, instead seeking out food for their enormous colonies during periods of migration.
- *Diet:* Ants are omnivores with a very varied diet including nectar, seeds, fungus, and other insects. However, some species have diets that are more unusual: army ants may prey on reptiles, birds, or even small mammals.
- *Interesting fact:* Ants can lift and carry more than three times their own weight.

Curriculum Area Links:

<u>Literacy</u>	Suggested Activity:	Afriphonics materials required:
	Colour Cut and Paste Tracing Letter practice Syllables Rhyming Plasticine/Playdough letters	A4 size Animal Black line Master A5 Tracing Cards My Alphabet Book Workbook & Afriphonics Sensory Letters A6 Display Cards A6 Display Cards
Rhymes	<u>Apple Tree:</u> Way up high in the apple tree <i>(stretch both arms above your head, hands open)</i> Two big apples looking down at me <i>(keep arms above head, close hands into fists)</i> I shook the tree just as hard as I could <i>(keep arms above head, "shake" tree)</i> Down came the apples <i>(bring fists down toward stomach)</i> Mmmm, they were good! <i>(rub stomach)</i>	
Book Suggestions	<i>Next to an Ant (Mara Rockliff)</i> <i>The Ant and the Elephant (Bill Peet)</i> <i>Little Black Ant on Park Street (Janet Halfmann)</i>	
Songs	<u>The Letter 'a' Song:</u> <i>(to London Bridge)</i> Apple starts with the letter a, Letter a, letter a. Apple starts with letter a, a-a-a-a Alligator starts with the letter a, Letter a, letter a.	

	<p>Alligator starts with letter a, a-a-a-a</p> <p>(Repeat for 'astronaut', 'animals' and 'alphabet')</p>	
<p><u>Creativity</u></p>	<p>Suggested Activity</p>	<p>Afriphonics materials required</p>
	<p><u>Sensory letter</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make copies of the letter 'a' black line master for the children to cut out. • Cover the letter with craft glue and sprinkle with <u>a</u>nised for a tactile and olfactory experience of the letter 'a'. 	<p>Animal-Letter A4 Black line master</p>
<p>Craft Activity</p> 	<p>Egg carton ant: The ant craft is fairly anatomically correct (head, thorax & abdomen, 6 legs & 2 antennae)</p> <p>Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cardboard egg carton – 3 cups per ant • scissors • yellow, brown, red or black poster paint (or another color if you want to make a creative ant) • paint brush • 4 pipe cleaners - three for legs and one for the antenna • sharp pencil • wiggly eyes • black marker • glue <p>Directions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cut a strip of 3 cups from the egg carton. 2. Paint the cups and leave to dry. 3. Using a sharp pencil, poke two holes in the top of the first cup. 4. From inside the cup, poke both ends of the pipe cleaner through the pencil holes (one end through each hole) to make antennae. 5. Using a sharp pencil, poke three holes in a row on each side of the middle cup (thorax) giving 6 holes in total. 6. Push a pipe cleaner through the first of the holes in the middle cup. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Make the same amount of pipe cleaner sticks out the sides - these are two legs - you can bend little feet into the ends of the pipe cleaner if you like. ○ Repeat with the second and third set of holes on the middle cup to give 6 legs in total. 7. Glue the wiggly eyes onto the head. <p>OPTIONAL: draw on a mouth with black marker.</p>	

