

Let's dive into the world of tiny builders known as carpenter ants! These little creatures are one of the largest types of ants you can find, measuring from 1/4 inch to 1 inch in size. Recognizable by their dark color, they might be black, brown, or even reddish. Their name comes from their knack for carving out their homes in wood, just like human carpenters!

Speaking of homes, you might be wondering where you can find these busy ants. Carpenter ants don't limit themselves to forests; they can also be found in homes, particularly where there is moist, decaying wood. Unlike



termites, they don't eat the wood, but they hollow it out to create their nests. So, if you see some fine sawdust around your house, our little friends might be around!

Now, if they're not munching on wood, what do carpenter ants eat? They enjoy a tasty menu of plant and fruit juices, other insects, and anything sweet they can find in your home. Their love for sweets can sometimes lead them into your kitchen, becoming a bit of a nuisance. But don't worry, they're not harmful to humans, they're just looking for a tasty treat!



Before we say goodbye, let's talk about their life cycle. The queen ant lays eggs that hatch into larvae, which are taken care of by worker ants. These larvae grow into adults and the cycle continues, with some ants living for several years! So, carpenter ants aren't just tiny builders, but they're also part of a fascinating world of insects that are crucial for our ecosystem.



#### Solve each problem.

#### Use the article to answer the question.

1) Why are they called carpenter ants?

A. Because they carve out their homes in wood

B. Because they are as big as carpenters

C. Because they eat wood

D. Because they build with tools

2) Where would likely find carpenter ants in the wild?

A. In forests B. Underground in caves

C. At the beach, usually in the sand D. In dry, sandy deserts

3) What do carpenter ants do with the wood?

A. They eat it B. They hollow it out to create their

nests

C. They carry it away D. They burn it

4) What color can carpenter ants be?

A. Yellow B. White C. Green D. Brown

5) What is the size range of carpenter ants?

A. About 3 inches B. About a foot

C. About an inch or less D. About 6 inches or more

**6)** What type of wood do carpenter ants prefer for their nests?

A. Freshly cut wood B. Moist, decaying wood

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7) What indicates the presence of carpenter ants?

A. Finding remnants of wood piles B. Hearing a loud buzzing sound

C. Seeing fine sawdust around your D. Seeing large ant hills

house

8) Why do carpenter ants sometimes venture into your kitchen?

A. They are looking for a place to nest B. They are looking for a tasty treat

C. They are attracted to light D. They are lost

9) What do carpenter ants eat?

A. soil and dirt B. Plant and fruit juices, other insects,

and sweet things

D. Wood and tree bark C. Seeds and nuts

**10)** What takes care of the larvae?

A. Larvae take care of themselves B. The queen ant

C. Worker ants D. Male ants

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).



- 11) "If you see fine sawdust around, it might be the trace of the nesting space I carved out."
- 12) "Even in the ant world, the queen rules. The queen lays the eggs and we workers take care of them."
- 13) "The queen doesn't lay eggs, we hatch from plants."
- 14) "I can make my home in forests and even in your home if I find moist, decaying wood."
- 15) "I usually have a dark color. It can be black, brown, or even reddish."
- **16)** "My diet is diverse, from sweet things to other smaller insects."
- 17) "Our lives are short, only about a few months long."
- 18) "I'm not your average ant, I'm one of the largest you can ever find measuring up to 1 inch."
- 19) "Despite living in wood, I don't eat it. I just hollow it out to create my nests."
- **20**) "We got our name because we look just like human carpenters."
- 21) "Our favorite snack is to munch on the wood we carve for our nests."
- 22) "Do you know how I got my name? It's because I build my homes out of wood, just like human carpenters."
- 23) "I love sipping on plant and fruit juices. You can say it's my favorite drink."
- 24) "Decaying wood is too damp for us; we prefer dry wood."
- 25) "We hate being in damp places, dry places are the best!"
- **26)** "Did you know? Some of us can live for several years!"

#### Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 27) In order to make their homes, carpenter ants carve in to wood instead of eating it.
- 28) Carpenter ants searching for sweets in the kitchen is more annoying than interesting.
- 29) Carpenter ants are one of the biggest types of ants, measuring up to 1 inch in size.
- **30**) It is interesting that carpenter ants, unlike termites, don't eat the wood they carve for their nests.
- 31) Carpenter ants build their nests in wood, often in dead or decaying trees.
- 32) It's neat that carpenter ants love sweet things just like us.
- 33) Carpenter ants eat plant and fruit juices, other insects, and anything sweet they can find.
- 34) Carpenter ants eat both plants and other insects, like aphids and small bugs.
- 35) Carpenter ants are more interesting than other ants because they can hollow out wood.
- **36)** The most interesting part of the carpenter and life cycle is when the queen and lays eggs.

#### Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **37**) Carpenter ants may live for several years.
- **38)** Carpenter ants are named so because they use tools like a carpenter.
- 39) Carpenter ants can be found in homes, particularly where there is moist, decaying wood.
- **40**) Carpenter ants are the smallest ants.
- **41**) Carpenter ants can be up to 1 inch long.
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## Carpenter Ants

Name:

- **43**) Carpenter ants are dangerous to humans.
- **44**) Carpenter ants eat wood to create their nests.
- 45) The presence of fine sawdust in the house may indicate the presence of carpenter ants.
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#### Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

- 47) They've got strong jaws to catch and crush their prey.
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- **49**) Carpenter ants <u>don't</u> actually eat the wood they live in.
  - A. does not

B. cannot

C. did not

D. do not

- **50**) Carpenter ants <u>can't</u> eat wood like termites do.
  - A. cannot

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D. will not

- 51) They're able to build their nests in dead or decaying trees.
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## Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 52) Carpenter ants can live for several years, with the queen being the longest-lived member of the colony.
- 53) It's mind-blowing to know that a carpenter ant's colony can consist of thousands of ants!
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- 57) It's incredible how carpenter ants can lift up to 20 times their body weight!
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	Carpe	enter Ants	Name:	
1.	26.	51		
2.	27	52.		
3.	28.	53.		
4.	29.	54		
5.	30.	55.		
6.	31.	56		
7.	32.	57.		
8.	33.	58.		
9.	34.	59.		
10.	35.	60.		
11.	36.			
12.	37.			
13.	38.			
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19 20.				
-				
22.				
23.				
24.	49.			

50.



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#### Solve each problem.

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## Carpenter Ants

**Answer Key** 

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## Carpenter Ants

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 $\mathbf{C}$ 

declarative

exclamatory

declarative

interrogative

interrogative

exclamatory

declarative

interrogative

exclamatory

51.

52.

53.

54.

55.

56.

57.

58.

59.

60.

**Answer Key** 

			Curponier Tine
1.	A	26	true
2.	A	27	fact
3.	В	28.	opinion
4.	D	29	fact
5.	C	30.	opinion
6.	В	31.	fact
7.	C	32.	opinion
8.	В	33.	fact
9.	В	34	fact
10.	<u>C</u>	35	opinion
11.	true	36.	opinion
12.	true	37	true
13.	false	38	false
14.	true	39	true
15.	true	40.	false
16.	true	41.	true
17.	false	42.	false
18.	true	43	false
19.	true	44	false
20.	false	45	true
21.	false	46.	true
22.	true	47	В
23.	true	48.	A
24.	false	49.	D
25.	false	50	A

Name:

## Solve each problem.

#### Use the article to answer the question.

1) Why are they called carpenter ants? (paragraph 1)

A. Because they carve out their homes in wood

В.

C.

D.

2) Where would likely find carpenter ants in the wild? (paragraph 2)

A. In forests

B. Underground in caves

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D.

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nests

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A.

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D.

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B. They are looking for a tasty treat

C.

D.

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C.

D.

**10)** What takes care of the larvae? (paragraph 4)

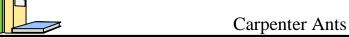
A. Larvae take care of themselves

В.

C. Worker ants

D.

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Name:

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Reading