

Ants are small but that is not all!

Geeta Dharmarajan

Art by Atanu Roy



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This book belongs to

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About Katha

Katha, a nonprofit organization founded in 1988, works in the literacy to literature continuum. We work with slum communities and municipal corporation schools to ensure that every child learns to read for fun and at grade level. We also work with women and teachers so that all children achieve their potential.

Our books, workshops and learning centres strive to forge cross-cultural connections through story and Story Pedagogy®. As one of India's finest publishers, our initiative has been recognized as "a unique and special moment in Indian publishing history" by *The Economic Times*.

Katha's books have received global recognition, including the nomination by an international jury for the prestigious Astrid Lindgren Award, the world's biggest prize for children's literature.

We love to work with new and established writers, translators and illustrators.

Do you like writing, illustrating, translating for children? Write to us at editors@katha.org to become a cherished member of the Katha family!

"[Katha] ... an educational jewel in India's crown."

— Naoyuki Shinohara, Deputy Managing Director, International Monetary Fund

"Katha stands as an exemplar for all the creative projects around the world that grapple with ordinary and dramatic misery in cities."

— Charles Landry, *The Art of City Making*

"Katha has a real soft corner for kids. Which is why it ... create[s] such gorgeous picture books for children."

— Time Out

"Katha's work is driven by the idea that children can bring change to their communities that is sustainable and real, just as the children do in [their books]."

— Papertigers





Ants not only look busy, but they know exactly where they are going! Every ant is part of a large ant community of about 50,000 ants. It is ruled by a Queen and has a special place and job within its society.

An ant's nest may be in the garden, under a stone, inside an ant hill or under your kitchen floor. However, all ants keep their community fed, sheltered and safe.



Ant's nests are full of winding tunnels, and rooms; they even have a burial room for their dead!



The ants in the nest look after the Queen so she can concentrate on laying eggs - on average, one for every ten minutes of her life!

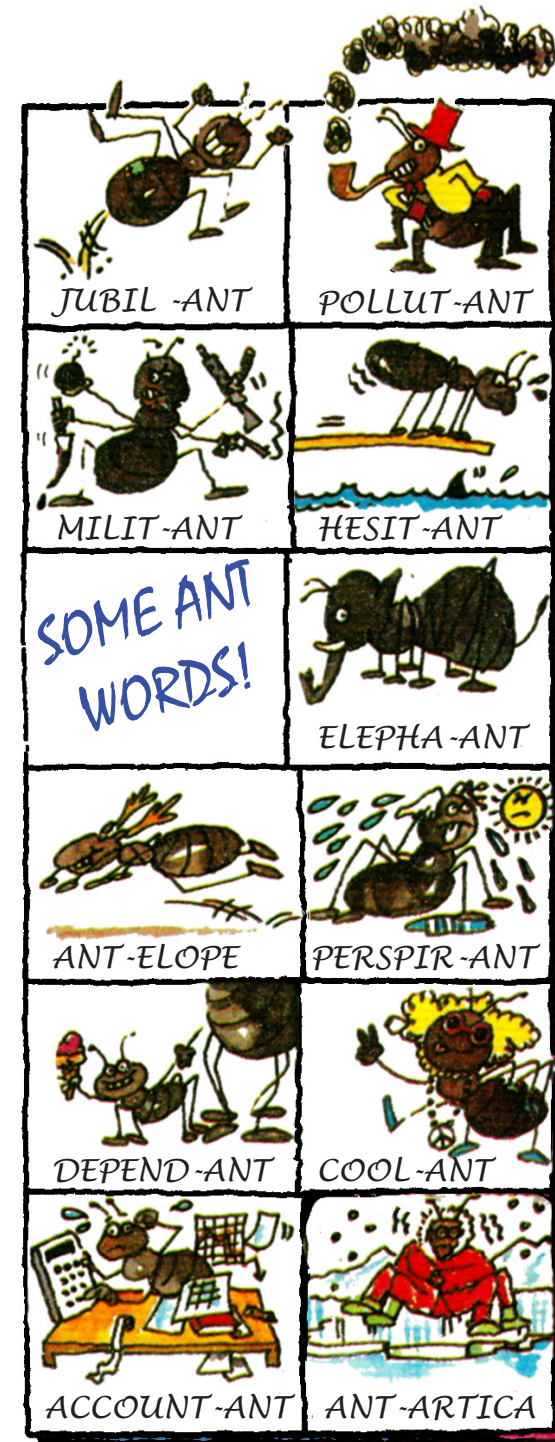


As the queen lays eggs, workers bring them to the egg room. Here the nursemaids take charge.

The nurses sort them according to size and when they've hatched into larvae, shift them from room to room, so that they'll always be where the temperature is just right for them.

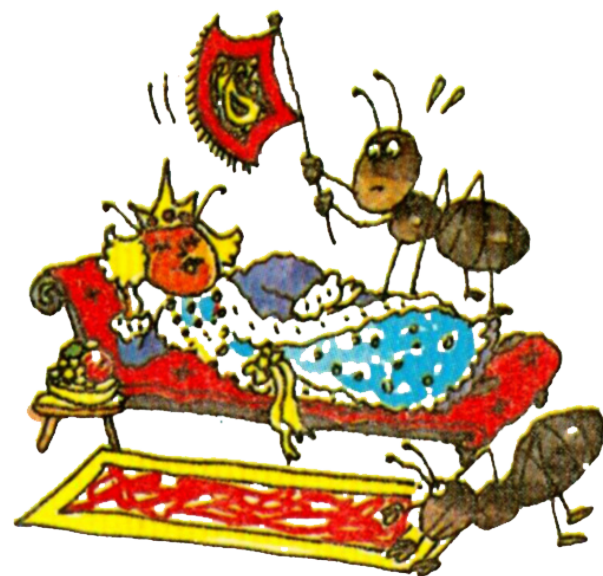
ANT FACTS

- All the ants in the nest are the queen ant's children.
- The soldier ant protects her queen and home.
- Some ants are professional nursemaids.
- Builder ants repair and help to expand the ant nest.
- Food-getter ants feed sugar and honey to their queen, and other workers.



Geeta Dharmarajan loves writing stories for children. She was one of the editors of *Target*, a magazine for children, and *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, the magazine of the University of Pennsylvania. She was awarded the prestigious Padma Shri in 2012 for her distinguished service in the fields of literature and education.

With over a hundred children's books under his belt, **Atanu Roy** has devoted much of his creative prowess to children's literature. It's no surprise then that Roy, who once worked as a political cartoonist for *India Today*, has won awards like the Children's Choice Award for Book Illustrations and the IBBY Certificate of Honour for Illustrations.



We know ants are tiny, busy creatures. But did you know that they are also caring, responsible and helpful?

Discover how the worker ants look after their Queen and how the builder ants repair their nests. Discover these and many more fascinating facts about ants that will open up a whole new world to you.

If you are an insect lover, this is the perfect picture book for you!

