

# Central Message, Lesson, or Moral

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 10



## Quick Review

Many stories teach a lesson. This lesson is called the moral. To find it, think about what the characters learn by the end of the story.

### PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

### The Ant and the Lazy Grasshopper

All summer long, the little ant worked hard. She carried bits of food to her home, one piece at a time. The grasshopper hopped in the grass and played his fiddle. He laughed at the ant. He said, 'Why work? Come and play with me!'

The ant kept working. She saved food for the cold days. The grasshopper did not save anything. He sang and played all day in the warm sun.

Soon winter came. Snow covered the ground, and there was no food to find. The cold grasshopper was hungry. The ant had plenty of food in her warm home. From that day on, the grasshopper learned to plan ahead.

### PART 2 — PRACTICE

Read the fable. Then answer the questions about the lesson it teaches.

1. What is the BEST lesson of this fable?
  - A. It is good to play all day.
  - B. Plan ahead and work hard for what you need.
  - C. Winter is the best season.
  - D. Ants are bigger than grasshoppers.
2. What did the ant do all summer?
  - A. She played the fiddle.
  - B. She slept in the grass.
  - C. She worked hard and saved food.
  - D. She laughed at the grasshopper.



3. What did the grasshopper do all summer?
  - A. He saved food for winter.
  - B. He helped the ant work.
  - C. He hopped, played, and did not save food.
  - D. He built a warm home.
4. Why was the grasshopper hungry in winter?
  - A. He gave his food away.
  - B. He did not save any food.
  - C. The ant took his food.
  - D. He was sick.
5. How does the ant show she is wise?
  - A. She laughs at the grasshopper.
  - B. She plans ahead and saves food.
  - C. She plays the fiddle.
  - D. She sleeps all winter.
6. What did the grasshopper learn at the end?
  - A. to play music better
  - B. to plan ahead
  - C. to run faster
  - D. to make friends
7. Which character learns the lesson in this fable?
  - A. the ant
  - B. the grasshopper
  - C. the snow
  - D. no one
8. The grasshopper saved food for the cold days.  
**T / F**
9. In your own words, write the lesson this fable teaches.

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10. Tell about a time you got ready for something ahead of time.

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## Answer Keys

- 1  A  B  C  D
- 2  A  B  C  D
- 3  A  B  C  D
- 4  A  B  C  D
- 5  A  B  C  D

- 6  A  B  C  D
- 7  A  B  C  D
- 8  T  F
- 9
- 10

### Explanations

1. B	The ant worked and saved, so she had food in winter.
2. C	Paragraph 1 says the ant worked hard and carried food home.
3. C	The grasshopper played and sang but did not save anything.
4. B	He did not save food, so he had nothing to eat when winter came.
5. B	Planning ahead and saving food shows the ant is wise.
6. B	The last sentence says the grasshopper learned to plan ahead.
7. B	The grasshopper learns the lesson after winter comes.
8. F	The grasshopper did not save any food for winter.
9.	<b>Answer:</b> Example: Work hard and plan ahead so you are ready for hard times. Accept any answer about preparing and working ahead of time.
10.	<b>Answer:</b> Example: I packed my bag the night before a trip. Accept any honest example of planning ahead.



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