

A Day in the Life of an Ant

*Imagine you are a worker ant!
What is your role in the colony?*

*Write about your day from the
time you wake up until the time
you go to bed.*

*Write about the special tasks
you would need to complete
each day. How hard is your job?
Be creative!*

Cleaning
the nest

Building the
nest

Caring for the
Queen

Caring for the
Young

Scouting for
food

Collecting
Food

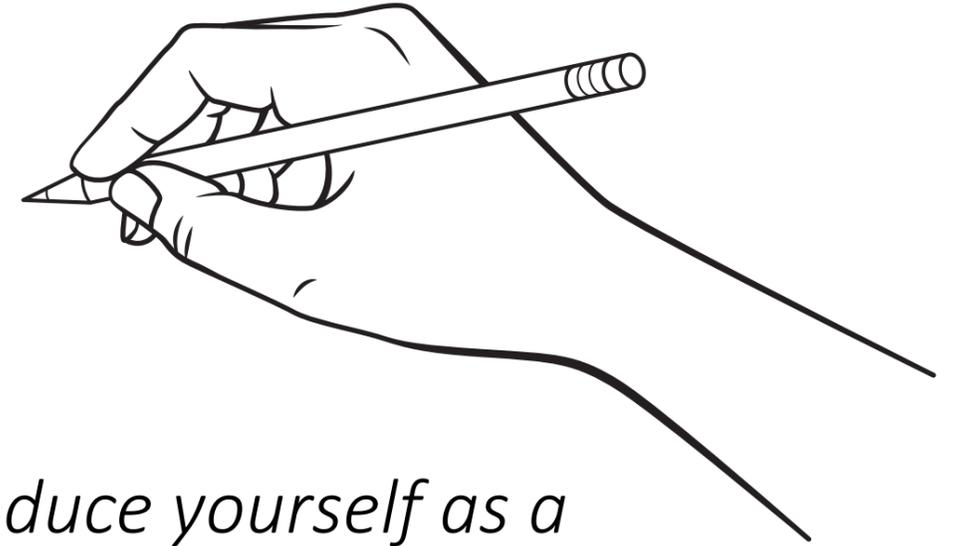
Guarding the
nest



*Here are some facts about ants
that may help you plan your writing:*

- 1. Worker ants are all female.*
- 2. The average ant colony contains between 100 000 and 500 000 worker ants.*
- 3. Worker ants care for the queen and the young.*
- 4. Worker ants leave the nest in search of food, scouting the area in large numbers.*
- 5. When worker ants leave the nest they lay a chemical trail in order to find their way back to the nest.*
- 6. When worker ants find food they return to the nest to tell other ants about the find. The ants then follow the trail to collect the food.*
- 7. Worker ants carry food back to the nest. They can carry 20 times their body weight!*
- 8. Worker ants have an amazing sense of smell. They can detect the scent of food up to 3.5 m (11.5 feet) away.*

Plan Your Writing :



Orientation:

Give your readers some background information. Introduce yourself as a character. Briefly describe the nest and identify your role in the colony.

Main Body:

Describe the day's events from the moment you wake up in the morning until you go to bed.

Describe any funny, weird, exciting or scary incidents that may occur throughout the day.

Describe how you feel about each of the tasks you are required to do. Are you happy with your role or do you wish for something different?

Conclusion:

Sum up the day. Was it a good day, a boring day, an unusual day? Would you recommend living in an ant colony as a worker ant?