



# SPY ON ANTS

See how many groups of ants you can find.  
Check sidewalks, around windows, in flower beds, and on trees.



INGRID TAYLAR/FICKR USER TAYLAR

## Keep a Record

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Weather \_\_\_\_\_

## Helpful Things to Take Along

Magnifying glass

Insect field guide

**DIRECTIONS:** Choose one group of ants to watch carefully. Use it to complete the activities below.

### 1. Follow a group of ants.

- Where is the ants' shelter?  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Where do the ants travel to and from?  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Draw a map that shows where the ants take shelter and where they travel.

### 2. Watch ants moving in a line.

- How do the ants move in the line?  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Drop a small piece of food near the line. Do the ants move off the line to get the food?  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Repeat this process several times, changing the distance between the ant line and the food. What did you discover?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Take a final look at your ants.

- Describe one other ant behavior you observe. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Why do you think the ants behave this way? How does the behavior help them? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

