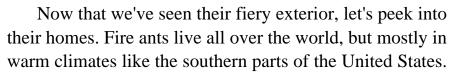
Imagine a tiny creature, dressed in a fiery red armor, no bigger than a grain of rice, meet the fire ant! These fascinating little critters have a reddish-brown color, almost like a tiny spark of fire. They are known for their distinctive mound-shaped nests, which they build using soil. And they've got a sting that's as fiery as their color, which is how they got their name.





They build large colonies in soil, with mounds that can be up to 18 inches high. Inside these mounds, they make a network of tunnels and chambers where they live and raise their young.

From their fiery houses, these little warriors venture out in search of food. They are omnivores, meaning they eat both plants and other small creatures. Their diet includes seeds, fruits, insects, and even small animals. In fact, they are known to attack in groups to take down larger prey.



Fire ants are not just interesting, they're also important players in the ecosystem. They help control pests by eating other insects and small animals. However, they can also be a nuisance to humans, as their stings are painful and can cause allergic reactions. So next time you see a mound in the ground, remember the fiery little warriors beneath, and keep a respectful distance.



### Solve each problem.

### Use the article to answer the question.

1) What choice is a color that fire ants may be?

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5) Do fire ant stings cause allergic reactions?

A. Only in some people B. Only in animals

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6) What do fire ants use to build their nests?

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7) Where do fire ants live mostly?

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swamps

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A. up to 3 inches B. up to 1 mile C. up to 10 feet D. up to 18 inches

**9)** What is the size of a fire ant?

A. Microscopic B. About the size of a cell phone C. About the size of a golf ball D. About the size of a grain of rice

10) Which choice best describes fire ants diets?

A. plants only B. fire ants do not eat C. plants and animals D. animals only

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

"Plants and small creatures, we consume them all, we are true omnivores."



- 12) "Fear our strength! Even large prey is vulnerable when we attack in groups."
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- 20) "We're pretty small. Usually around the size of a rice grain."
- 21) "I couldn't survive in warm climates."
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### Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 28) Fire ants help to control pests by eating other insects and small animals.
- 29) Fire ants stings, which are very painful, make them very scary to be around.
- **30**) Fire ants are omnivores, they eat both plants and other creatures.
- 31) The mounds that fire ants build are fascinating to see.
- **32)** Fire ants build their homes in soil, forming mounds.
- **33**) Fire ants are more fun to learn about than regular ants.
- **34)** A fire ant sting can cause painful allergic reactions in humans.
- 35) Fire ant colonies can be found in warm climates, like southern parts of the United States.
- **36)** The reddish-brown color of fire ants is quite beautiful.
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#### Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **38)** Fire ants may eat fruits and seeds.
- **39**) Unlike other ants, fire ants build their homes in the trees.
- **40**) Fire ants build their nests using soil.
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- 42) Fire ants build mounds that can reach up to 18 inches in height.
- **43**) Fire ant colonies are usually found in cold areas.
- 44) Fire ants do not have stingers and defend by biting.



- **45**) Fire ants are predators and only eat other insects.
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- 47) Fire ants got their name because of their painful sting.

## Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

- **48**) There's a special fly that helps control fire ant populations by laying eggs inside them.
  - A. There are

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- **49**) Fire ants' stings feel like <u>they're</u> burning, which is why <u>they're</u> called fire ants.
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# Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

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- **58)** What color are fire ants?
- **59**) The life cycle of fire ants starts with the queen laying eggs.
- **60)** Where do fire ants build their homes?
- 61) Fire ants can cause painful stings and allergic reactions in humans.
- **62**) Clean up your food to avoid attracting fire ants.
- **63**) Ouch, fire ant stings can be really painful!
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#### Determine which choice is the conclusion that can be drawn from the statement.



- 65) Fire ants build their nests in mounds of soil outdoors or in decayed logs and around trees and stumps. Based on this statement, what conclusion can be drawn about fire ants?
  - A. Fire ants are a type of marine ant.

B. Fire ants can adapt to both open and forested environments.

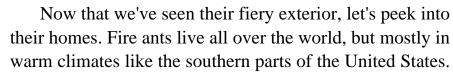
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  - A. Being omnivores allows fire ants to have a wider variety of food sources.
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- C. Being omnivores makes fire ants pickier eaters.
- D. Being omnivores means fire ants can only eat one type of food.
- 67) Fire ants are known to prey on small animals and can even damage crops. Based on this statement, what conclusion can be drawn about fire ants?
  - A. Fire ants solely feed on crops.
- B. Fire ants do not interact with any other organisms.
- C. Fire ants are typically harmless to crops and small animals.
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- **68)** When a fire ant mound is disturbed, the ants get aggressive and attack to defend their colony. Based on this statement, what conclusion can be drawn about fire ants?
  - A. Fire ants have venomous stingers, but they prefer running away to using them.
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		Fire Ants		I	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.		61			
12.	 37		62			
13.	 38.		63			
14.	39.		64			
15.	40.		65			
16.	 41		66			
17.	 42.		67			
18.	 43.		68			
19.	 44		69			
20.	 45					
21.	46					
22.						
23.	 48.					

24.

50.

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**Answer Key** 

Name:

Reading

24.

25.

true

false

49.

50.

A

 $\mathbf{D}$ 



### Solve each problem.

U	se	the	article	to	answer	the	question.
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C. Yes D.

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C. D.

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C. D.

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D. up to 18 inches

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