

MAKE YOUR OWN

Clothespin Ant



ABOUT THE ACTIVITY

Using pipe cleaners, glue and a clothespin, you'll make a fun craft ant and learn about the role they play in pollination.

Follow these simple steps to create your ant.

Before you start the activity, think about this amazing fact: Ants have been around longer than the dinosaurs. There are lots of different kinds of ants: 22,000 different species, with many living in the rain forests.

Like butterflies, ants go through three life cycles: larva, cocoon or pupa, and then they become an ant.

MATERIALS

- Mini clothespin
- Pipe cleaner of the same color cut into six equal pieces, 2 inches each
- 2 googly eyes
- Glue
- Black marker
- Disposable table covering



STEP 1:

Glue all six legs onto the clothespin (three on each side), starting around the hinge and going to the rear. Leave room at the front for the ant's head.

Did You Know?

Ants aren't as good of pollinators as butterflies and bees because they can't fly from flower to flower (though some types of ants have wings). But they still love nectar.

- Ants have five main body parts: abdomen, thorax, head, antennae, and legs, of which they have six.
- The thorax is where the ant's six legs attach.
- The ant's abdomen is at its back end.

Did you know an ant has two stomachs in its abdomen? One for energy and fuel for itself, and one to store food for other ants.

- Ants have two antennae. The antennae help them smell, touch, taste and hear. To communicate with each other, ants touch their antennae together.

STEP 2:

Allow to dry. Then glue the googly eyes on the front sides.

Did You Know?

In addition to nectar, ants eat plants and animals, too, meaning that they are omnivores. Like you, ants drink water, seeds and meats. But they also eat fungus. Eww!

STEP 3:

If the legs won't stick by gluing them, cut 3 four-inch strips of the pipe cleaners, and wrap them around the clothespin, twisting them underneath, then bending the legs downward. And if your clothespin isn't a dark color, like an ant, use a marker to color it - you can use black or red, if you want a red ant!

STEP 4:

Enjoy your Ant!

Did You Know?

Ants can lift 20 times to 100 times their own bodyweight. That would be like you lifting a car!

Brought to you by Corteva, Colorado State University and University of Illinois