

**INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
PRIMARY SECTION**

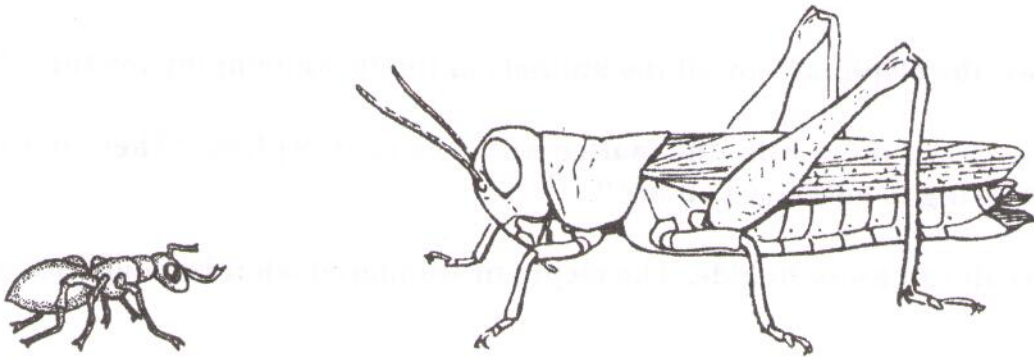
Story No : 3 & 4

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THE ANT AND THE GRASSHOPPER



Once upon a time there was a grasshopper who lived in a field. It liked to hop, chirp and sing. There was an ant staying nearby the grasshopper's nest. They were good friends. It was springtime and the grasshopper was having a lot of fun playing, singing and dancing in the sun. The ant was hard working. It was collecting food grains and storing them in its house for winter.

The grasshopper did not understand why the ant was working so hard. He asked, "Hey, Ant! Why don't you come outside and play with me?" The ant replied, "I cannot. I am storing food for winter when there won't be anything to eat!" The grasshopper only laughed at the ant and said, "Why are you worrying now? There is plenty of food!" It continued to play while the ant worked hard.

When winter came, the grasshopper did not find a single grain of food to eat. It began to starve and feel very weak. The grasshopper saw how the hardworking ant had plenty of food to eat and understood its foolishness.

Moral: Hard work always pays.

The Elephant's Friends

One day an elephant wandered into a forest in search of friends. He saw a monkey on a tree. "Will you be my friend?" asked the elephant. The monkey replied, "You are too big. You cannot swing from trees like me."

Next the elephant met a rabbit. He asked him to be his friend. But the rabbit said, "You are too big to play in my burrow!"

The elephant met a frog. "Will you be my friend? He asked. "How can I?" asked the frog. "You are too big to leap about like me." The elephant was upset. He met a fox next.

"Will you be my friend?" he asked the fox. The fox said, "Sorry, Sir, you are too big."

The next day, the elephant saw all the animals in the forest running for their lives.

The elephant asked them what the matter was. The bear replied, "There is a tiger in the forest. He's trying to gobble us all up!"

The animals all ran away to hide. The elephant wondered what he could do to solve the problem.

Meanwhile, the tiger kept eating up whoever he could find. The elephant walked up to the tiger and said, "Please, Mr. Tiger, do not eat up these poor animals."

"Mind your own business!" growled the tiger. The elephant had no choice but to give the tiger a kick.

The frightened tiger ran for his life. The elephant ran back into the forest to give the good news to everyone.

All the animals thanked the elephant.

They said, "You are just the right size to be our friend."

