



पु.ना International School
Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul, Zundal

CLASS - VIII

SUBJECT – ENGLISH

BOOK – 1. HONEYDEW

THE ANT AND THE CRICKET (POEM)

❖ SUMMARY

This poem is about a cricket (an insect), who found himself in trouble as the winter season arrived. He found he had nothing to eat; nor had he cared to make a shelter for himself.

He decided to go to an ant for help. He wished to borrow some grain from her and to spend a day or two in her hole during the rainy days. His intention was to pay her back later on.

However, the ant did not help the cricket. She told him without mincing words that it was rule of ants that they neither borrowed nor lent. She asked the cricket in astonishment if he had not saved anything for the winter. To which the cricket replied in negative. She asked him the reason. He replied he was so busy enjoying his life, he did not bother to save or put by anything. The ant taunted him to go and dance during the winter also.

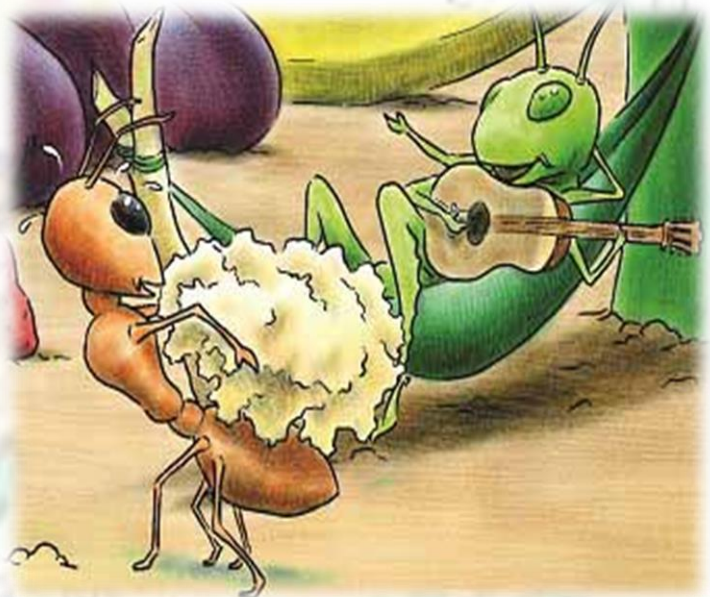
In conclusion it can be said that we must be responsible for our future. We must not just spend our good times idly; we must also secure our future against the bad times also.

❖ NEW WORDS

1. Complain
2. Snow- covered
3. Starvation
4. Famine
5. Shelter
6. Mouthful
7. Sorrow
8. Wicket
9. Cricket

❖ WORD MEANINGS

1. Accustomed to - addicted to, in habit
2. A crumb - a piece
3. Shelter - home
4. Starvation - hunger
5. Quoth - quoted
6. Gay - happy



❖ ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

Q1. Why did the cricket complain?

Ans - The cricket had spent the entire summer season by singing, dancing and merry-making. Because of this he had empty cupboard which is of utter need in coming winter. That is why the cricket complained .

Q 2. What did the ant ask the cricket?

Ans- The ant asked the cricket that what he was doing in summer times.

❖ READ THE EXTRACT AND ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

**At last by starvation and famine made bold, Ail dripping with wet, and all trembling with cold,
Away he set off to a miserly ant,
To see if, to keep him alive, he would grant**

1. Who was suffering from starvation and famine ?

- (a) the Ant (b) the Cricket
(c) the poet (d) a man.

Ans:(b) the Cricket

2. Why was he 'dripping with wet' ?

- (a) It was raining hard. (b) He had dived in a pond,
(c) He had no shelter. (d) He had taken a bath.

Ans: (c) He had no shelter.

3. What did he expect to get from the miserly ant ?

- (a) good advice (b) food
(c) shelter (d) food and shelter.

Ans:(d) food and shelter.

4. What does the word 'grant' mean ?

- (a) kind (b) generous
(c) take (d) give.

Ans:(d) give.

