



2018

Just Like Us! Ants

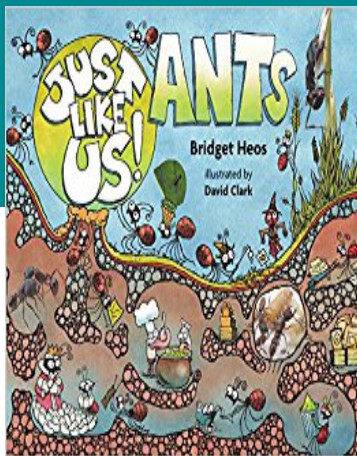
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Cook, Haley (2018) "Just Like Us! Ants," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 39 : Iss. 4 , Article 11.
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Book Review

Just Like Us! Ants

Author

Bridget Heos

Illustrator

David Clark

Reviewer

Haley Cook

Rating

Excellent

Level

Primary

Pages

32

Year

2017

Publisher

HMH Books for Young

ISBN

9780374306281

Ants are more like us than we sometimes imagine. They work together as a community, each with their own role, to survive. They have occupations, including farmers, babysitters, leaders, trash collectors, and foragers. They care for their young and keep them well fed, hoping they will grow up strong in order for ant community to expand. They have defense mechanisms in place to help protect the community against predators, and even have soldiers who fight, just as humans do. They grow their own fungus and keep it fed with bits of chewed leaves, while the trash collectors pull unwanted materials from the fungus and dispose of them. Eventually, the babies that they have been caring for grow up and start their own communities of ants, just like human children do, although their process happens much quicker than humans.

This is a great informational book that gives a lot of details on the daily lives of ants. Every two pages, a new topic is introduced, accompanied by illustrations, photographs, and information. While this book is mostly illustrations, occasional photographs have been Photoshopped into the illustrations to give some examples of ants in real life. This is a quirky method and sometimes looks odd, but it's interesting to see these photos. The text includes lots of complex scientific vocabulary, making this an appropriate book for higher grades, like third and fourth. The information is engaging and explained clearly. Comparisons are made between ants and humans, making the information more attainable for young children because it gives them a baseline to compare ants to. Overall, this is a quality informational book that a child interested in ants will love.