

Cute Ant

eTwinning project



About

The aim of the project was to bring the child closer to the world of nature by learning, observing, experiencing and discovering the life of ants with different senses. The topic of this project emerged from children's observations. This is our next nature project. We learned about bees in the "Bee Happy" project and the world of butterflies in the "Butterfly Effect" project. The desire to interest children in the world of ants arose spontaneously and the idea was born for our project to have a hero - an Ant mascot. First, let's check what children currently know about ants. Then, there will be a brainstorming session, which will create a grid of questions and mind maps that will help us determine the schedule and sequence of actions to be taken in order to find answers to the children's questions.

Goals:

- Developing students' cognitive curiosity
- Enriching science vocabulary
- Shaping appropriate attitudes as an observer of nature
- Shaping the pro-ecological attitude of students
- Improving the ability to collect and select information

- Learning interesting facts about the life of ants and the structure and development cycle of ants

The student:

- understands how an ant colony functions.
- explains what cooperation between individuals for the good of the entire colony involves; explains how an anthill is formed; describes the importance of ants in nature, develops scientific thinking.

Tasks (start 20.11.2023 - end 30.05.2024)

1. December

- 1) start **Mascot Travel Ants** - the mascot visits each partner school. He has a **Travel Album** with him. In this album, he collects information about the country and city he is in, as well as a photo of the class he is visiting. In this way, children expand their knowledge about the world and geography. The ant will also have a "Big Book of Ants" in which we will insert printed cards from the Album.
- 2) **Creating a project logo** - children's drawings ants. Each class chooses one ant from among all the ones prepared by the students (or the children prepare one ant together) which they place on the logo. The background must be removed.
- 3) **Creating a project posters** - Teachers tasks. Voting.
- 4) **Wishes for the New Year**

2. January, February

- 1) **The structure of an ant** - project participants learned about the appearance of an ant and learned what functions each part of the body performs.
- 2) **Singing a song**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XXRiX8W83CA>
- 3) **creating a common dictionary** with words about what the ants ate in the song

4. March

- 1) **Ants Coddling Book** - Bring the ant to the anthill - creating code and programming. Cooperation in mixed pairs. Each class prepares a coded route for the ant for each other.
- 2) **First day of spring - 20th March - Spring Day in the land of ants**, musical fun, children dress up as ants. We will record joint wishes on the occasion of the First Day of Spring.
- 3) **Ant life cycle** - at this stage, students were looking for answers to the questions: "Where do ants come from?" How do they develop? Children will learn in detail about the ant's development cycle and thus acquire knowledge about how an ant develops from an egg into an adult. A walk around the school, park or forest "In search of ants"

5. April

- 1) **common Fairytale** about Ant - we will generate illustrations for the fairy tale using an AI generator (in Canva or Microsoft Bing AI Generator or other) **Fun with AI** - generating images of ants using artificial intelligence. Common story book.

6. May

- 1) **Cute Ants Album** - Chatterpix Talking Ants, ant gives advice about protecting the earth and the world - Earth Day
- 2) **Trip to the forest** - On this day, armed with magnifying glasses, we will go on a trip to the forest to take a closer look at the life of ants and collect gifts from the forest to build a model of an anthill. Features: "Who rules the anthill?", "What does the queen do?", "What do soldiers do"? These are the basic questions we try to answer.
- 3) **Student Discover - Ant Picnic** - we will learn about the diet preferences of ants in different parts of the world. What ants eat at different times of the year and in different places around the world tells us what might be missing in their environment and how

climate change could impact ant populations. (Students do an experiment)

Additionally:

"What is the life of ants like" - educational film

STEAM Activity:

1. "Anthill" - construction - Project participants learned the cross-section of an anthill, and then together they created an anthill out of gray paper and gifts of nature collected in the forest.
2. Making ants from paper and other art materials

Common material:

1. **The Big Book of Ants** - each class chooses one species of ant, creates materials about it: a picture and a description of the species. In the book, we also include information about the life of ants, their development cycle, the construction of an anthill, etc.
2. **Common Dictionary** - vocabulary related to the life of ants: ant, anthill, and vocabulary from a song about what the ants ate
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XXRiX8W83CA>
3. **Ant's Travel Album** - In this album we collect information about the country and city where Ant is staying, as well as a photo of the classroom that Ant is visiting.
4. **Cute Ants Album** - Chatterpix Talking Ants - ant gives advice about protecting the earth and the world - Earth Day
5. **Ants Coddling Book**