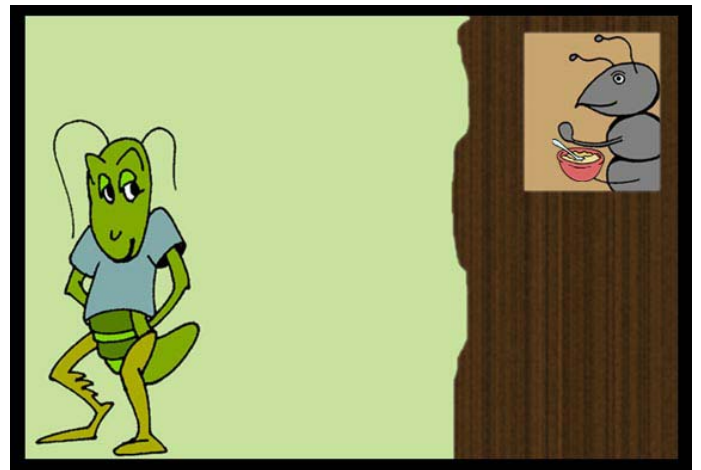
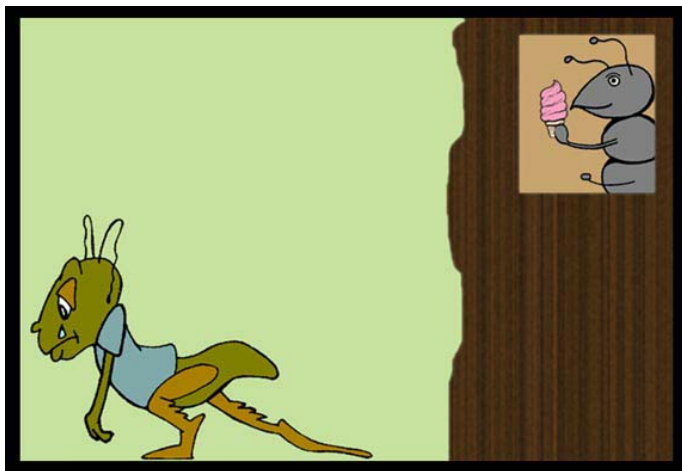


In a field one summer's day a Grasshopper was hopping about, chirping and singing to its heart's content. An Ant passed by, bearing along with great toil an ear of corn he was taking to the nest. "Why not come and chat with me," said the Grasshopper, "instead of working so hard?" "I am helping to lay up food for the winter," said the Ant, "and I recommend you to do the same." "Why bother about winter?" said the Grasshopper; "we have a lot of food at present." But the Ant continued its toil.



Then came winter. The Grasshopper had no food and found itself dying of hunger. He watched as the ants distributed corn and grain from the stores they had gathered in the summer. The poor Grasshopper begged for a little of their food. The Ants asked him, "Why didn't you store up any food during the summer?" He replied, "I didn't have the time. I was too busy singing."



Then they said in derision: "If you were foolish enough to sing all the summer, you must dance supperless to bed in the winter." Then the Grasshopper knew: It is best to prepare for the days of necessity.

"The Ant and the Grasshopper" is just one of Aesop's Fables. A former Greek slave named Aesop created these fables over 2500 years ago to help solve arguments and teach important lessons.

The Bible and Work

"Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, Provideth her meat in the summer, *and* gathereth her food in the harvest. How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? *Yet* a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man." **Proverbs 6:6-11**

"Not slothful in business; ..." **Romans 12:11**

"Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with *his* hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth." **Eph. 4:28**

"For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread." **2 Thessalonians 3:10-12**

"But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." **1 Timothy 5:8**