## PICNIC WITH AN ANT

## STUDENT NAME:

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## Read the book Hey Little Ant by Hoose. Then "invite an ant to a picnic"!

## Instructions:

1) Each student should decorate the provided rock using crayons that will be used to mark their special ant picnic area or trail.
2) Go out first thing in the morning and have the students look for ant hills on the sidewalk, and then use the sugar shakers to make a pile of sugar to invite the ants out of their homes for a picnic!
3) Students can also look for cracks in the sidewalk or pavement, or a patch of dirt in the yard and can use the sugar shakers provided to make a trail of sugar for the ants to follow.
4) After laying out their sugar picnic pile or trail, students should place their decorated rock so that they can easily identify which picnic pile or trail is theirs.
5) Try to check at noon and then the end of the day and see if the ants have come to your picnic!
6) Use your magnifying glass to observe the ants closely (be sure that you do not have the sun shining on your magnifying glass or you will harm the ants with too much heat)
7) Observe the following things, and record them on this sheet or in your nature journal:
a) How long did it take the ants to find the picnic? Noon or end of day or next day?
b) What behaviors did you observe in the ants?
c) One of ants "superpowers" is that they can lift objects several times heavier than their body weight. Did you see any ants exhibiting this "superpower"?
d) Did the ants exhibit any behavior of working together to move the sugar?
e) Follow an ant that is carrying a piece of sugar from your trail and see where it takes it.
