Imagine a tiny creature, dressed in a fiery red armor, no bigger than a grain of rice, meet the fire ant! These fascinating little critters have a reddish-brown color, almost like a tiny spark of fire. They are known for their distinctive mound-shaped nests, which they build using soil. And they've got a sting that's as fiery as their color, which is how they got their name.

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From their fiery houses, these little warriors venture out in search of food. They are omnivores, meaning they eat both plants and other small creatures. Their diet includes seeds, fruits, insects, and even small animals. In fact, they are known to attack in groups to take down larger prey.



Fire ants are not just interesting, they're also important players in the ecosystem. They help control pests by eating other insects and small animals. However, they can also be a nuisance to humans, as their stings are painful and can cause allergic reactions. So next time you see a mound in the ground, remember the fiery little warriors beneath, and keep a respectful distance.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

1) What choice is a color that fire ants may be?

A. blue B. yellow C. green D. brown

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A. by scaring away pestsB. by building walls to keep pests outD. by eating other insects and small animals

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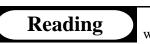
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11) "Plants and small creatures, we consume them all, we are true omnivores."





- 12) "Fear our strength! Even large prey is vulnerable when we attack in groups."
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- **38)** Fire ants may eat fruits and seeds.
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- **45**) Fire ants are predators and only eat other insects.
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Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

- **48**) There's a special fly that helps control fire ant populations by laying eggs inside them.
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C. They are

D. There was

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- 51) Fire ants aren't found just in the United States, they're also in Australia and Asia.
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- 53) Wow, fire ants can lift 20 times their body weight!
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- 65) Fire ants build their nests in mounds of soil outdoors or in decayed logs and around trees and stumps. Based on this statement, what conclusion can be drawn about fire ants?
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	Fire Ants		Name:
1.	26.	51.	_
2.	27.	52.	_
3.	28.	53.	_
4.	29.	54.	_
5.	30.	55.	_
6.	31.	56.	_
7.	32.	57.	_
8.	33.	58.	
9.	34.	59.	
10.	35.	60.	_
11.	36.	61.	_
12.	37.	62.	_
13.	38.	63.	_
14.	39.	64.	_
15.	40.	65.	_
16.	41.	66.	_
17.	42.	67.	_
18.	43.	68.	_
19.	44.	69.	_
20.	45.		
21.	46.		
22.	47.		
23.	48.		
24.	49.		

50.

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Reading

25.

false

 \mathbf{D}

50.

Answer Key

Name:



Solve each problem.

Use the article	to	answer	the	question.
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A. B. yellow
C. D. brown

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A.B. by building walls to keep pests outC.D. by eating other insects and small animals

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C. D.

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A. Only in animals B.

C. D. Yes

6) What do fire ants use to build their nests? (paragraph 1)

A. soil B. C. D.

7) Where do fire ants live mostly? (paragraph 2)

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C. D.

8) How big can a fire ant mound be? (paragraph 2)

A. B. up to 18 inches

C. D.

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