

1 Ready for a Bull Fight

Large red aggressive bull ants are known for the way they are always ready to fight. Three bull ants with keen vision stand guard atop a mound of dirt that leads to their tunneled home. When a bug creeps too close, the guard ants attack it while other bull ants rush to their aid. They wrap their strong bodies around the larger intruder and hold it with their powerful jaws. Using poison stingers on their stomachs, they stab the bug, then carry the dead body back to their home.



Vocabulary to Visualize:

aggressive: forceful; attacking first
keen: strong, clear, sharp
tunneled: holes dug into the ground
stingers: pointed objects on insects' bodies that may contain poison

1 **First Sentence:** Large red aggressive bull ants are known for the way they are always ready to fight.

What did those words make you picture? _____

What did you picture for...

1. the bull ants? _____

2. the size of the ants? _____

3. the ants as aggressive? _____

4. them being ready to fight? _____

2 **Second Sentence:** Three bull ants with keen vision stand guard atop a mound of dirt that leads to their tunneled home.

What did those words make you picture? _____

What did you picture for...

1. the three bull ants? _____

2. their keen vision? _____

3. them standing guard? _____

4. their tunneled home? _____

3**Third Sentence:** When a bug creeps too close, the guard ants attack it while other bull ants rush to their aid.What did those words make you picture? _____

What did you picture for...

1. a bug? _____

2. it creeping close? _____

3. the guard ants attacking? _____

4. the other ants rushing to aid? _____

5**Fifth Sentence:** Using poison stingers on their stomachs, they stab the bug, then carry the dead body back to their home.What did those words make you picture? _____

What did you picture for...

1. their stingers? _____

2. them stabbing the bug? _____

3. them carrying the body? _____

4**Fourth Sentence:** They wrap their strong bodies around the larger intruder and hold it with their powerful jaws.What did those words make you picture? _____

What did you picture for...

1. their strong bodies? _____

2. them wrapping their bodies around the intruder? _____

3. their powerful jaws? _____

4. them holding the intruder with their jaws? _____

Picture Summary:

Number your images in order.



Large red bull ants are known for their aggressive fighting.



Other bull ants rush to the aid of the guard ants.



The guard ants attack any bug that creeps too close, wrapping their bodies around it.



The bull ants leave three guards on the mound that is the entrance to their home underground.

Critical Thinking

Write a Word Summary:

Main Idea:

Check the box that best describes all your images—the main idea.

- The bull ants build their home underground using tunnels and mark the entrance with a mound of dirt.
- The bull ants post three guards that have keen vision on the top of the mound.
- The bull ants use guards to spot, attack, and kill intruding bugs.

HOT Questions:

1. Why might it be important to leave three ants on top of the mound? _____

2. Why might it be important for these ants to have keen vision? _____

3. Why do you think the ants live underground? _____

4. Why do you think the other bull ants rush to the aid of the guard ants? _____

5. Why do you think they stab the intruder with their stingers? _____

6. Why do you think they carry the dead body home? _____
