

Fun Facts: Ants



- Ants have glands which secrete chemical communications
- Black garden ant colonies typically have around 5,000 workers but can grow to have 15,000
- Some ant species use the sun as a compass to find their nests and can calculate how far they've walked
- Ant larvae look like white grubs
- Large Blue butterfly caterpillars live in ant nests and eat the grubs
- Flying ants of different species appear at different times– black garden ants usually fly in July or August but red ants often fly in September
- Flying ants are important food for birds- feasting gulls often announce the appearance of flying ants
- Look closely at flying ants and you can see there are larger new queens and smaller males