

## The most prolific species on the planet



### Ant Facts I

- The combined weight of the earth's ants outweighs that of humans, and they have the highest population of any animal on earth.
- They are prolific: the only places without an indigenous ant population are Antarctica, Greenland, Iceland and a handful of remote tropical islands.
- Ants know how to look after their monarchs. A queen ant can live for up to 30 years, while male workers generally survive for only a few weeks

## Ant Facts II

- African driver ants are so vicious they have been known to kill humans. Although cases are rare, babies or already unconscious adults are occasionally found killed by the creatures, which attack in swarms of up to 100,000.
- There are more than 12,000 different species of ant, ranging in size from 2mm to 25mm (about an inch).
- They are surprisingly strong and fast. Ants can lift 20 times their own body weight and run so fast that if we could move as quickly for their size as ants, then we would be as fast as racehorses

## Ant Facts III

- Ants cannot actually chew or swallow their food. Instead they squeeze out the juice.
- They have two stomachs: one for their own food, and one for other ants in the colony.
- Ants are remarkably tidy. Some worker ants take on the job of taking the nest's waste to an outside rubbish dump