

Name _____

Note-taking

Note-taking while reading and studying can help you learn and remember new information. The **notes** should be brief and include the most important facts or information from the text.

Directions Read the paragraph and take notes by writing about the most important ideas.

The Ant Colony

Ants are social insects that live in groups or colonies. In most ant colonies, there are three castes or classes of ants. The castes include the queen, the workers, and the males. The queen's job is to lay eggs. Some colonies have only one queen, while others have several queens. The queen does not rule the colony.

Workers have many jobs. They care for the queen and for the young ants. Workers repair, build, and defend the nest. They also gather food for the colony.

Male ants do not do any work for the colony. They live for only a short time, and their only job is to mate with young queens.

1. ant colony

ant colony—group of ants living together

2. caste

caste—classes of ants

3. queen

queen—lays eggs in the colony

4. workers

workers—care for nest, queen and young; gather food

5. males

males—mate with queens; live for only a short time



Home Activity Your child read a selection and took notes on the most important ideas. Find a paragraph from an encyclopedia or textbook. Ask your child to identify and take notes on the most important information in the paragraph.