

ANDREW  
JENNINGS

AGES  
6-7

COMPREHENSION NINJA



# COMPREHENSION NINJA WORKBOOK



## Learning at Home

Non-Fiction comprehension activities  
to support the National Curriculum

BLOOMSBURY

**COMPREHENSION  
NINJA  
WORKBOOK**

**AGES 6–7**

**ANDREW JENNINGS**

# INTRODUCTION

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compose the texts found within this book with you. Thank you for all of the love and smiles  
you undoubtedly put into each word.

Reading comprehension is all about understanding what you are reading – and being able to show that you understand. This Comprehension Ninja workbook will help your child master the foundations of reading comprehension by focusing on three key aspects:

- **Skimming** and **scanning** a whole text to locate information efficiently.
- **Retrieving** the correct information from the text in eight different ways.
- **Vocabulary** awareness and the **effect of word choices**.

This book contains seven curriculum-linked texts, each followed by a set of questions to check whether your child has understood the text. There are eight question types to develop your child's comprehension skills:



For texts 1 - 4, the activity pages feature one question type per page so your child can focus on building up their comprehension skills one at a time, while texts 5 - 7 look a bit more like a test, with two pages of mixed questions.

**This book includes the following topics: animals which live underground, Chinese New Year, planting seeds, seaside holidays, Rosa Parks, France and animal offspring.**

## HOW TO USE THIS WORKBOOK

### STEP 1 – READ THE TEXT CAREFULLY

Encourage your child to read the whole text carefully before they start trying to answer the questions. You can help them with any words or phrases they don't know. As an extra activity, you could ask your child to read the text aloud to you.

### STEP 2 – PICK OUT KEY WORDS AND INFORMATION

Picking out key words and headings will help your child to quickly locate the information they need to answer the questions. Encourage your child to underline key information as they read the text, such as:

- **Nouns** – names of people, places and objects.
- **Time** – dates and periods of time.
- **Numbers** – amounts, statistics, percentages and figures.
- **Vocabulary** – important topic vocabulary or words they are unsure of. They could look these up online or in a dictionary to find out what they mean.

Your child should also look out for titles and headings, which will help them understand the structure of the text.

### STEP 3 – IDENTIFY KEY WORDS IN THE QUESTIONS

Encourage your child to identify key words in the questions so they know what they're looking for to find the answer. For example, in a text about the seaside:

**Question:** What might you find in a rock pool?

**Key words:** rock pool

'Rock pool' is the clue needed to answer the question.

### STEP 4 – SKIM AND SCAN THE TEXT

Once your child has identified the key words in the question, they can try to remember where in the text the answer can be found. This might be as simple as remembering whether it was at the beginning, middle or end of the text, or thinking about which section the key information was in.

Your child can then **skim read** the whole text to find the section they need. When they've found it, they should **scan** the section to find the relevant sentences. They then read those sentences carefully to find the answer.

Invite your child to work through all the questions and give them lots of encouragement along the way. The answers can be found at the back of the book.

# 1 LIVING UNDERGROUND

Living underground has lots of benefits for animals.

It can protect them from creatures that may attack them.

It can shelter them from very high or very low temperatures.

It can give them somewhere cool to store food.

Some animals live underground for their entire lives. Others also spend time above ground.

Rabbits and ants both live underground.

## Rabbits

Wild rabbits live in groups. They dig their homes under the ground using their sharp nails and strong front paws.

Each home is called a warren. It has lots of different exits and entrances. Rabbits use these to avoid animals that want to eat them.

Inside, the warren is split into smaller spaces called chambers. Rabbits use the chambers for different things. Different families may sleep in different chambers. Other chambers may be used to store food.

## Ants

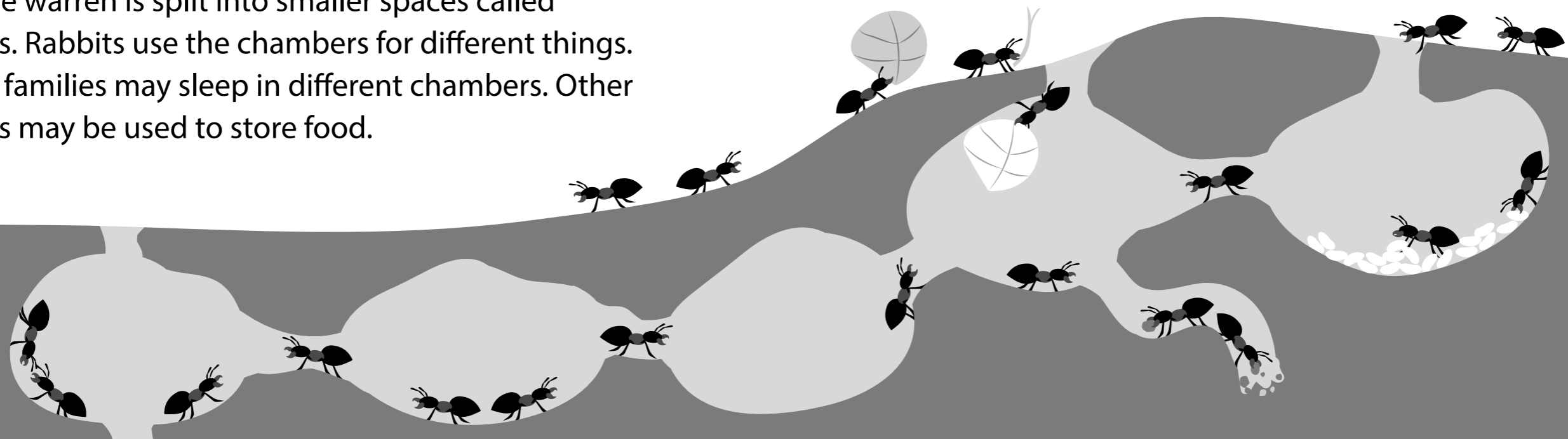
Ants dig their homes using their mouthparts.

These look like pincers. It is slow for each ant, but there could be more than a million ants working on each nest!

Like rabbit warrens, ant nests have lots of different chambers. The chambers are connected by tunnels. The nests also have lots of different exits and entrances. They make sure ants can get into and out of the nest quickly.

Like rabbits, ants use their chambers for different things. Some are used for storing food and some keep ants' eggs safe.

Ants may seem very different from rabbits, but their homes are very similar!



**SKIM AND SCAN**



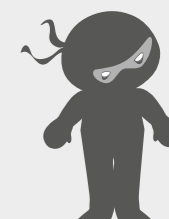
This question is about *Living underground*.

Use your ninja reading eyes to spot the words in the text.

Circle the words when you find them.

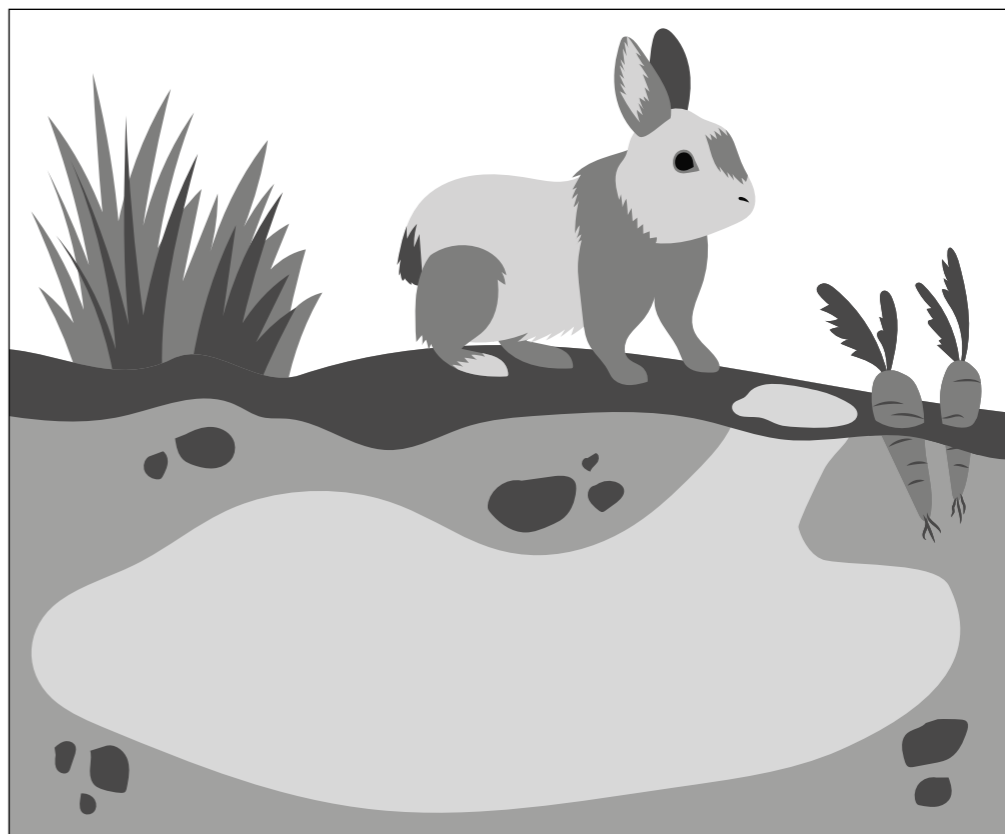
underground	animals	attack
temperatures	food	rabbits
warren	exits	chambers
ants	pincers	nest
tunnels	eggs	homes

**LABEL AN IMAGE**



Look at the image below.

Label the image with words from the word bank.



**Word bank**

rabbit	warren	food
grass	soil	paws

**FILL IN THE GAP**



**FILL IN THE GAP USING A WORD BANK**

Read the sentence and choose the correct word to fill the gap.  
Look back at *Living underground* to find the correct answer.

Living underground can give animals somewhere cool to store \_\_\_\_\_.

- food
- water
- plants
- insects

\_\_\_\_\_ and ants both live underground.

- Bees
- Dogs
- Rabbits
- Bears

Inside, the warren is split into smaller spaces called \_\_\_\_\_.

- rooms
- chambers
- homes
- entrances

The nests also have lots of different \_\_\_\_\_ and entrances.

- holes
- spaces
- tunnels
- exits

**FILL IN THE GAP**

Look back at *Living underground*.

Skim to find the correct area or paragraph of the text. Then scan to locate the correct sentence. Fill in the gap with the missing word.

Some animals live \_\_\_\_\_ for their entire lives.

Rabbits dig their homes under the ground using their sharp \_\_\_\_\_ and strong front paws.

Ants may seem very different from rabbits, but their \_\_\_\_\_ are very similar!

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**



Circle the correct answer to the following questions.

What is a rabbit's home called?

- garden
- chamber
- lair
- warren

What do ants live in?

- hive
- nest
- warren
- trees

What do ants use to dig their homes?

- mouthparts
- hands
- legs
- shovels

What do ants store in chambers?

- eggs
- flowers
- water
- blankets

What else do ants store in chambers?

- rocks
- water
- food
- soil

What connects the chambers in an ant nest?

- burrows
- tunnels
- warrens
- exits

Which animal lives in a home similar to an ant nest?

- cat
- horse
- bird
- rabbit