

## **The March of the Ants**

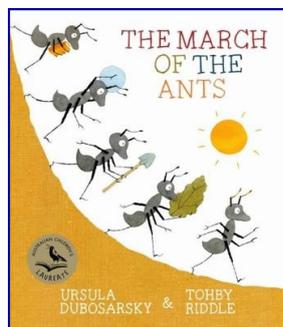
By Ursula Dubosarsky & Illustrated by Toby Riddle

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\$24.99

The ants are heading out on a very important expedition. What will they need to take with them? It's a wild journey! And in the end, it's the littlest ant who leads the others to discover the most important thing of all. A book about a very special book.



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

### **Themes:**

- Reading
- Storytelling
- Resilience
- Persistence

### **Discussion Questions & Activities:**

- Before reading, look at the cover artwork and the title of the book. Ask students what they think the book might be about?
- Look at the endpapers used in the book. Discuss with students why the illustrator might have chosen this design for the endpapers.
- Do stories need to have heroes? Who is the hero in this story? Why?
- What are some words you could use to describe the Littlest Ant's character? Why would you choose these words?
- Where has the illustrator positioned the littlest ant in the line of ants at the beginning of the book? Does this change throughout the book? Why?
- Stories come alive with the use of various language techniques.
  - ◇ Ask the students to find three examples of repetition used in the story.
  - ◇ Ask the students to find an example of alliteration.
  - ◇ What is the impact of asking a question of the reader during the story – "Would they ever reach their destination?"
- *The March of the Ants* is about a journey. How does the illustrator use colour to chart this journey?
- Discuss how the story raises ideas about the following issues:
  - ◇ The Power of Reading
  - ◇ Persistence
  - ◇ Resilience
  - ◇ The importance of story
- Imagine you were going on an expedition. Apart from a book, list 5 objects you would take. Why would you choose these objects?
- Ask students to write a creative story using one or all of the objects the ants take on their journey. Where are you going? How do you use these objects/tools?