



# How Ant Saved Dove

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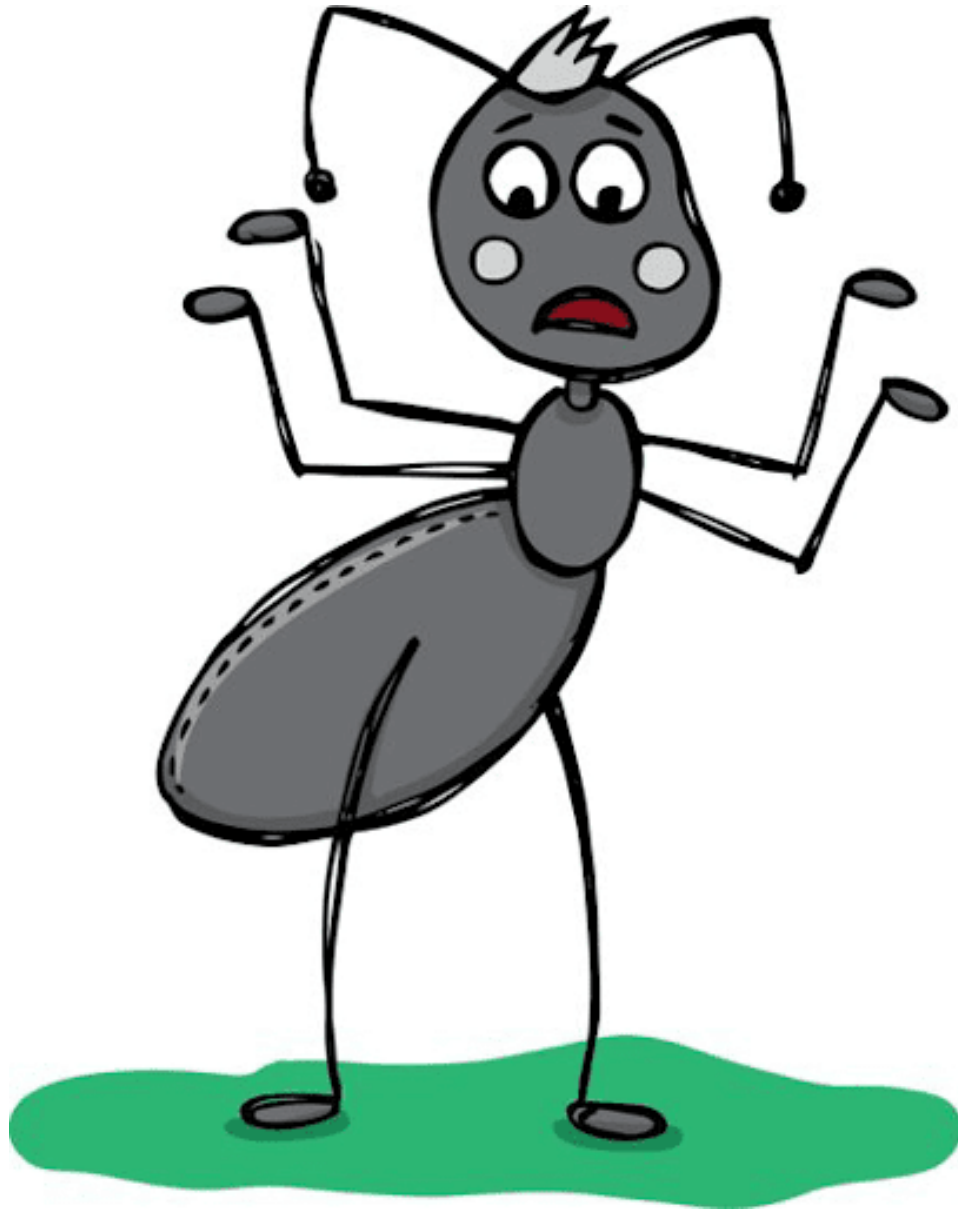
Wiehan de Jager



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It was a hot summer day in the forest.



Little Ant had not had anything to drink in a long time.



“Just one drop of water  
would quench my thirst,”  
said Little Ant.



But even the dew had dried up. There was no water to be found.



Then Little Ant remembered a river he had heard of once. It flowed with water all year long.



Little Ant asked his friend, Wise Squirrel, how to get to the river.

"You should not go to the river," he said. "It is big and strong. It will sweep you away."

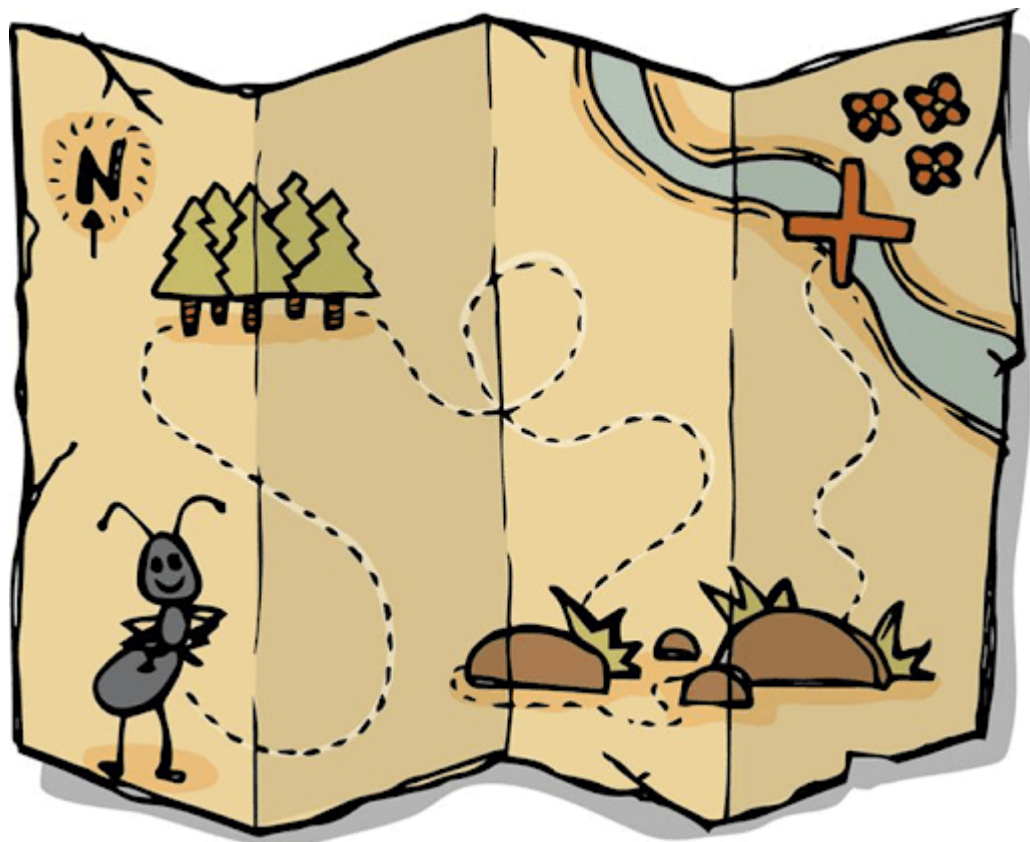


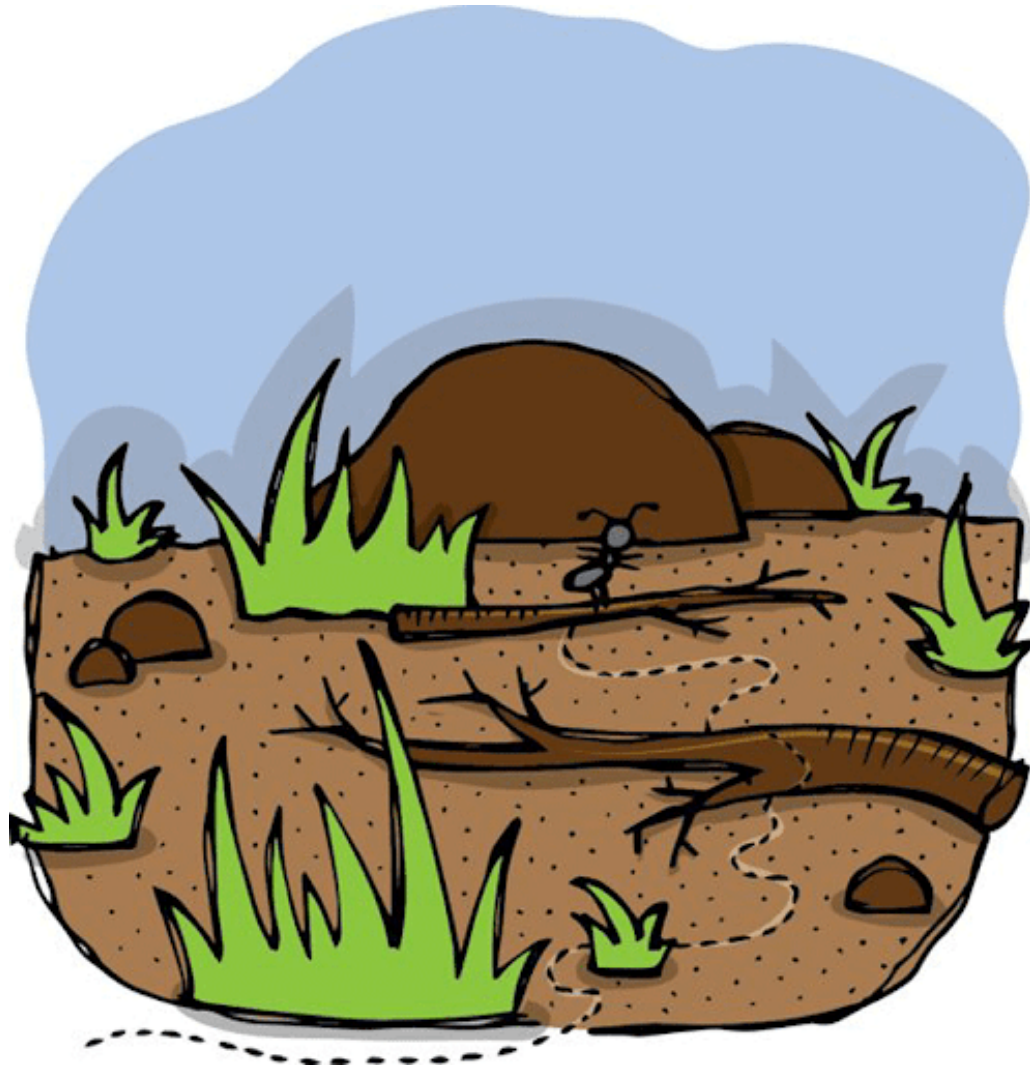
But Little Ant was extremely thirsty.

"I will die if I don't drink some water."

So Wise Squirrel gave him a map to follow, and wished him luck.







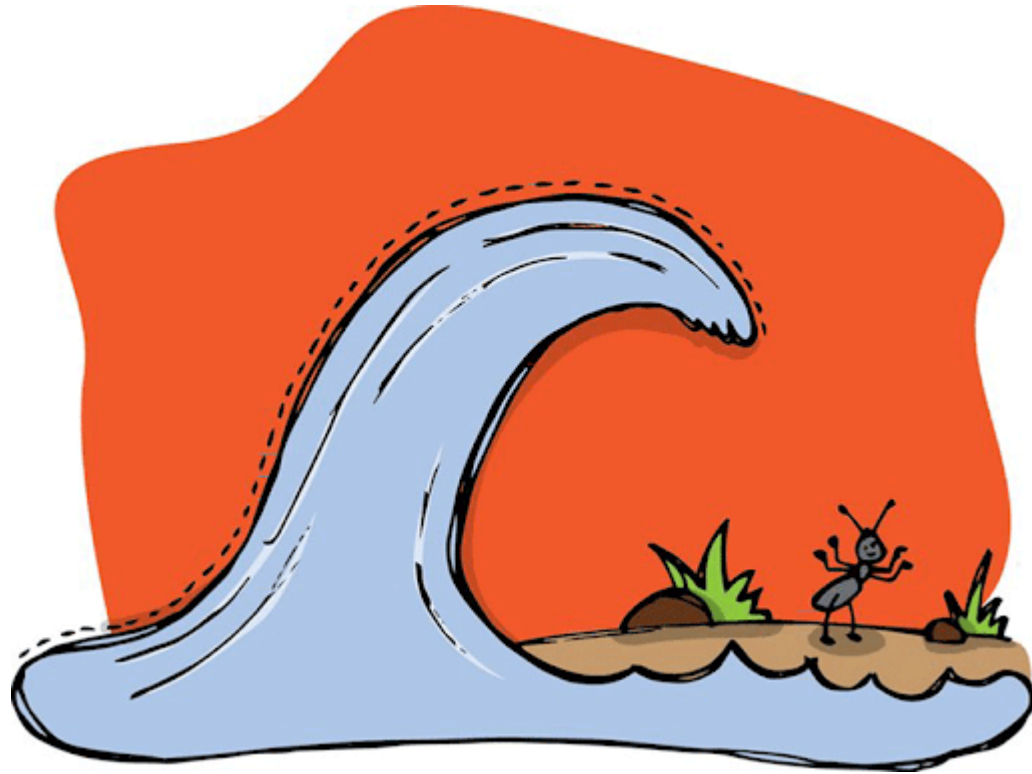
Little Ant walked past  
tufts of grass and over dry  
branches.



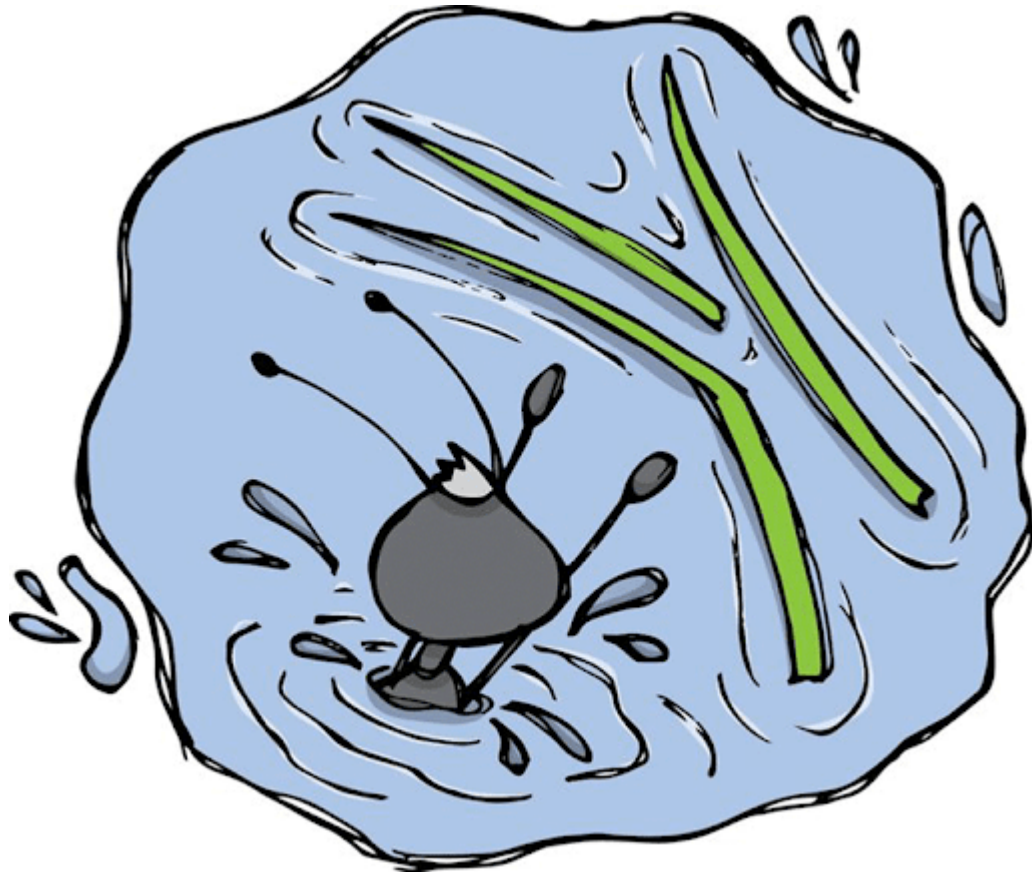
He walked until he heard water splashing. It was the river! He could hear waves.



Little Ant took a long sip of cool water.



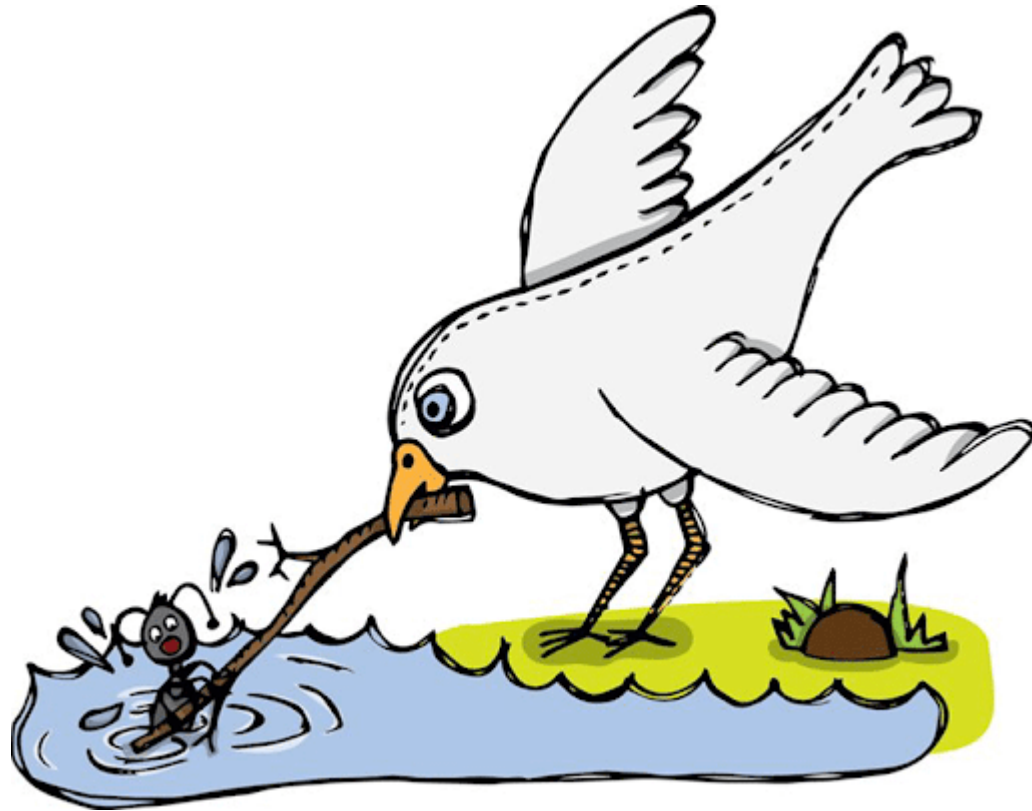
He was so happy he did not see a wave coming.



Little Ant tried to grab some grass floating past him. But he was swept away by the water.

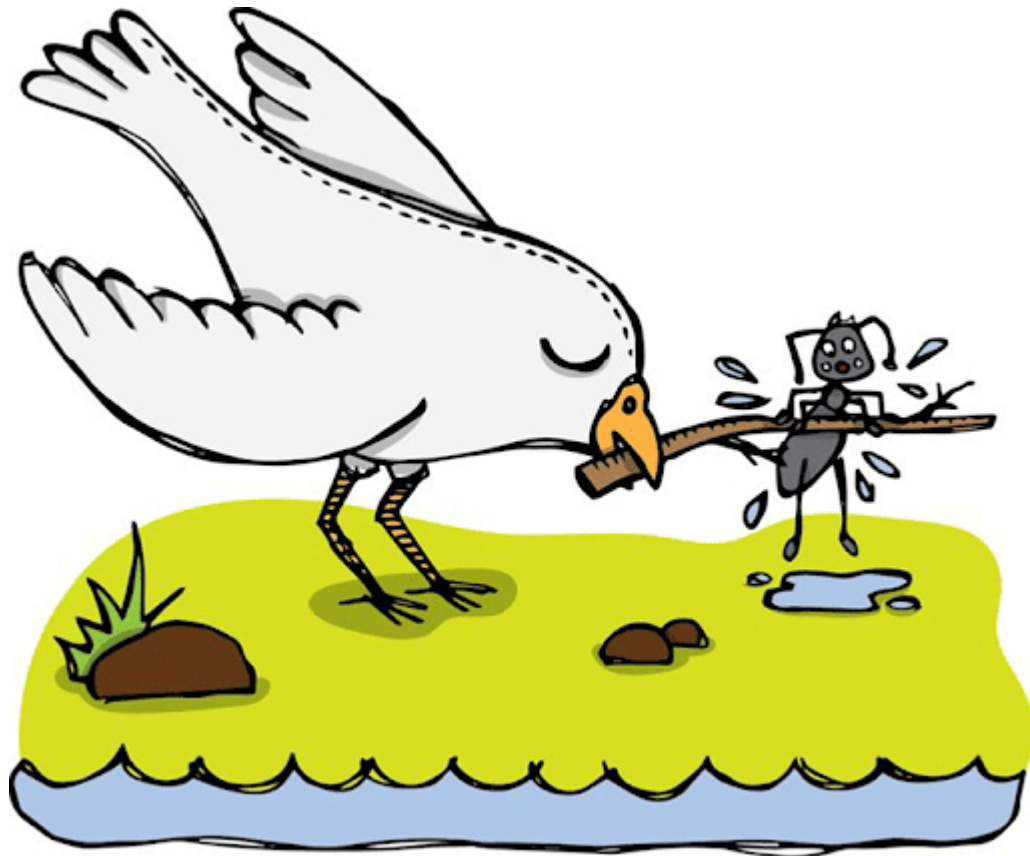


"Help me someone. Help me please!" he called.



"Quick, climb on," said White Dove, holding a branch in her beak.





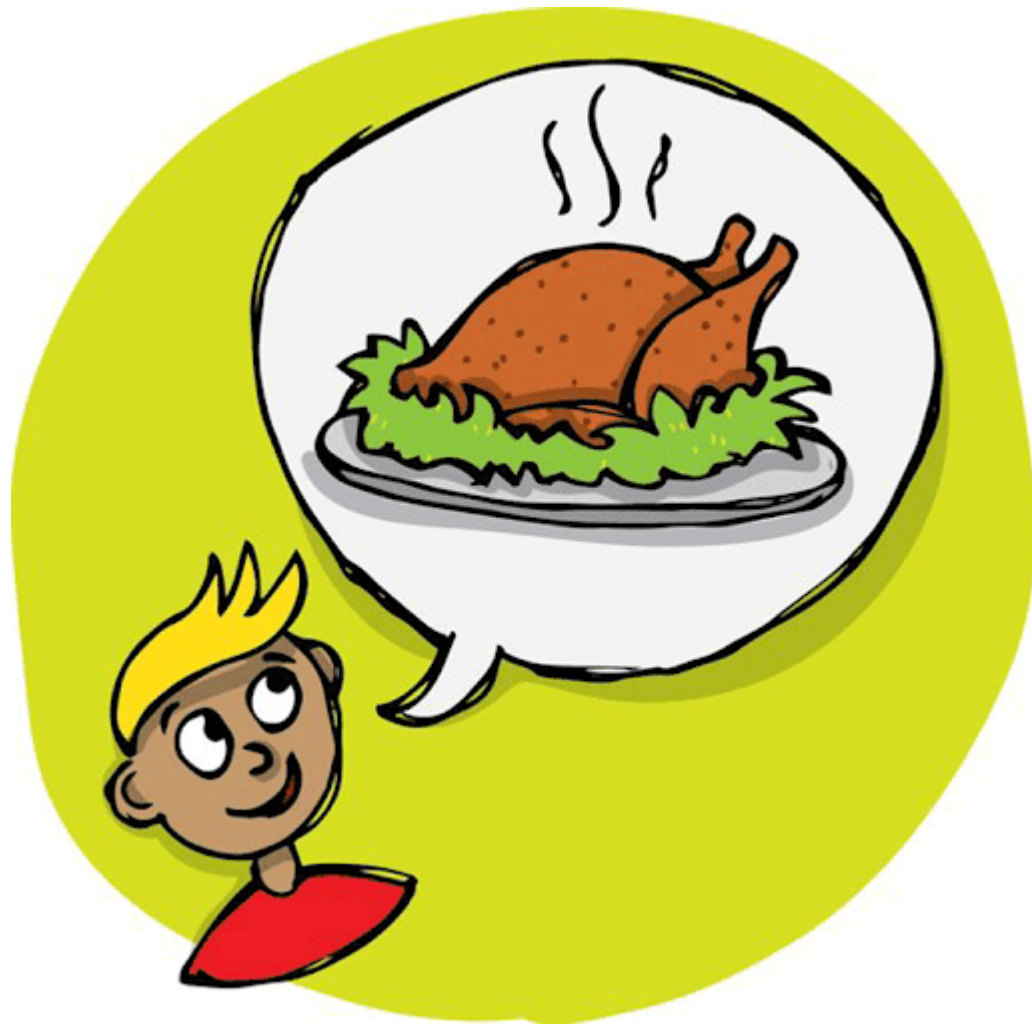
Ant was relieved to be on dry ground. But the dove flew away before he could say thank you.



"I will stay here until I can thank the dove," decided Little Ant. "I will wait until she comes back to drink."



As he waited, two boys came to the river. They carried slingshots.



"There is a big white dove that comes here to drink," said one boy. "We will have it for supper tonight."





"I cannot let the boys kill White Dove," thought Little Ant. "But I am so tiny, what can I do?"



Just then, White Dove flew down from the tree to drink.







Little Ant had an idea.



He jumped onto one boy's foot. Little Ant bit that boy as hard as he could.



The boy jumped. "Ouch!" he shouted.



'White Dove was startled and flew away to safety.



That was how Little Ant thanked White Dove for saving him.

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#### Original Story

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