



**MOS**  
duurzame  
scholen  
straffe  
scholen

**Ant has got  
a problem**





Ant has got a problem. “Kgg! Arr! Nnh! Pft!” He is drenched in ant’s sweat Ant is leaning against his snack, completely exhausted. “This makes no sense. This delicious cherry won’t budge an inch, no even an ant leg can move it.”

However, Ant is strong. Very strong. Moving a bread crumb or a tasty leaf is not a challenge, but even for him, this is too good too much.



#### POSSIBLE KEY QUESTIONS

- Who has already seen an ant close up?  
Where was it (in the forest, at home...)?
- Who has already seen an ant carrying something? What was the ant carrying?  
How was the ant carrying it? (on its back?)
- What do ants eat?









Snail comes crawling by. “Hello Ant. What a delicious snack you’ve got there?”

“A tasty, sweet cherry”, Ant answers. “The problem is, that it is too heavy for me to drag it to my house.”

“I’d really like to help you, but then I want a piece of it.”

“No way!” Ant says. “I’ve found that cherry, so it’s mine!”

“So be it!”, Snail answers disappointed and she slowly continues her way.



#### POSSIBLE KEY QUESTIONS

- Who has already seen a snail? What did it look like?
- With or without snail shell? What’s the use of the shell?
- What do snails eat?
- Why does Ant not want to share the cherry with Snail?











Ant sets to work again. “Mm, let me think. If I would dig a trench underneath my snack, it might just roll up to my house.”

Ant starts working diligently. But the deeper Ant digs the hole, the harder the cherry presses on his body.

“Mmph, I’m almost crushed. This does not work.” With some effort, he crawls out from under the cherry.









A cricket passes by, chirping. “Hello Ant, what are you doing?”

“Hello cricket. I’ve found this tasty snack and I’m trying to take it home”,  
Ant sighs.

“That doesn’t quite seem to work very well”, says Cricket. “It looks heavy.  
In return for a piece of it, I’m willing to help you.”

“Never”, Ant shouts. “This snack is mine and mine only!”

“Good for me”, Cricket chirps and he’s on his way again.



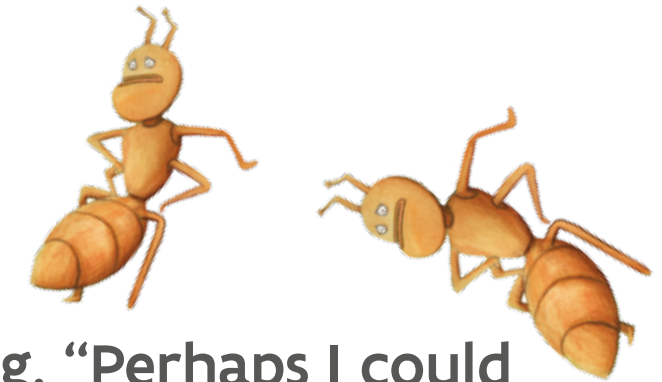
#### POSSIBLE KEY QUESTIONS

- Who knows the cricket? What does it look like? Who does it look like?→ a grasshopper.  
Who has ever heard a cricket? Can you imitate the sound it makes?  
You can also find that sound on YouTube.
- Still Ant doesn’t want to share. What’s do you think about that?  
Why do you think so?









“What if I put a long branch under the cherry?”, Ant is considering. “Perhaps I could lift my cherry this way and it may start to roll.”

Ant starts looking for a long branch. With some effort, he manages to put the branch under the cherry. “Krr, Arrgh, Nnnh!” Ant is dangling at the end of the branch.

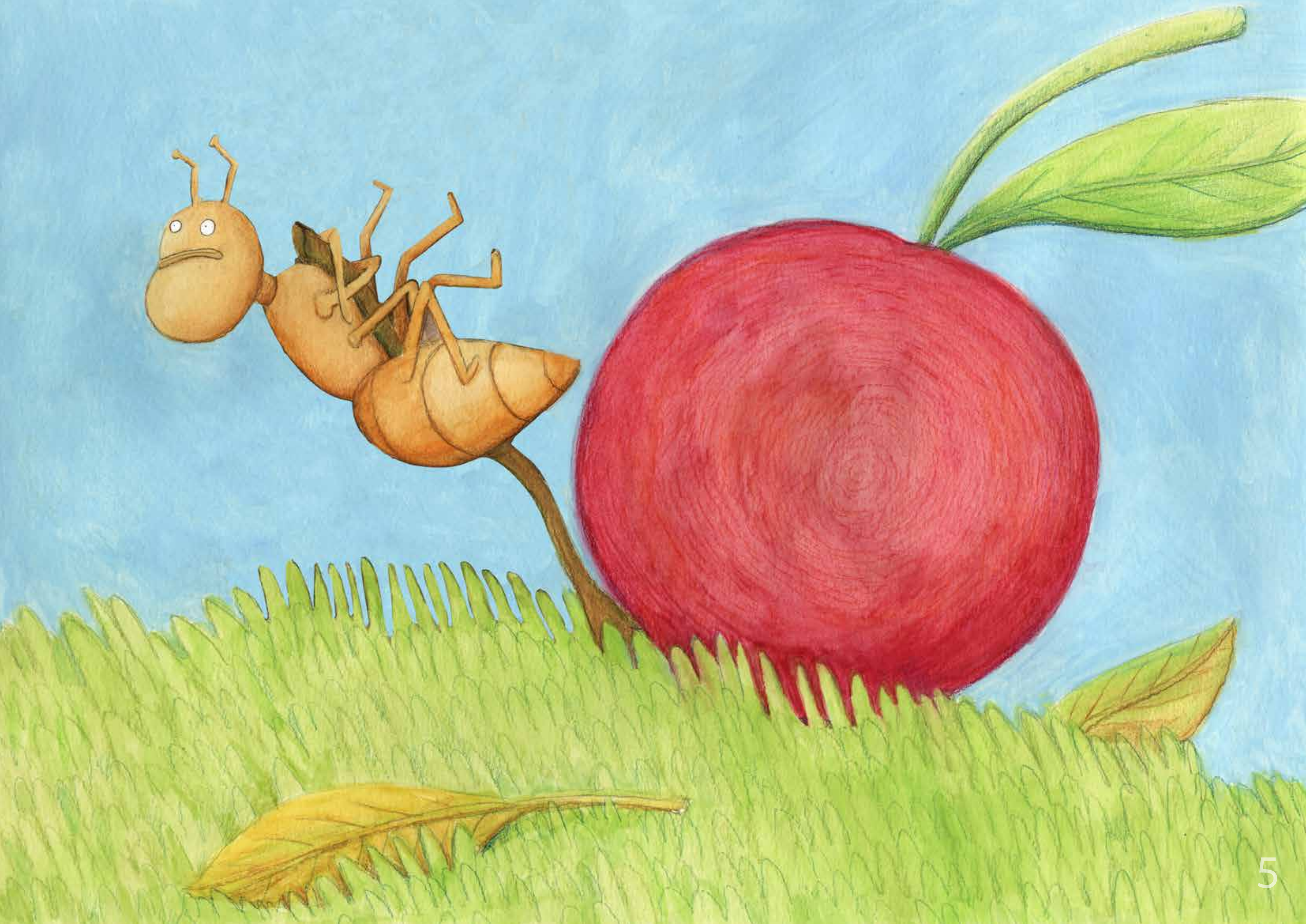
He pulls and pulls, but his snack doesn’t move. “This doesn’t work either. Or I am too light, or the cherry is too heavy. In this way, I’ll never get my snack to my little house.

GOLDEN S.T.E.M. (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH) TIP

- You can let the children carry out some simple experiments on the leverage principle. Ask them, for example, to move a heavy object from place A to place B.
- Compile criteria: with or without help from other kids, self-made equipment...?









“Buzzzzzzz...” Bee is flying curiously towards Ant and his giant snack.

“Hello Ant, you’re working so hard?”

“Hello Bee”, says Ant, “I’m trying to move this delicious snack to my house, but whatever I try, it just doesn’t work.

“I’d really like to help”, says Bee, “in return for a piece of this tasty cherry”.

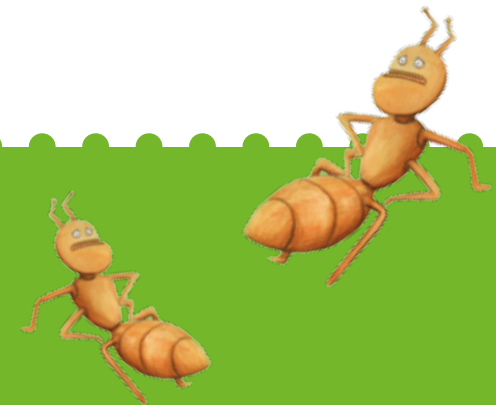
“You’re not the first one to say that”, Ant answers, “but I’ve found this cherry and I want it just for myself.”

“Okay, okay”, Bee says, “it’s your choice. But what’s the use of having a cherry if you can’t get it home? Besides, this snack is far too big for you alone.”



#### POSSIBLE KEY QUESTIONS

- Who knows the bee? (link with Maya)
- What do bees eat?
- What do bees take care of? → fertilization of flowers (fruit, vegetables...), honey
- What’s the difference between a bee and a humblebee or a wasp?  
→ Study the differences using photographs, movies...











Ant has to give this some thought. “Bee might be right. The cherry is gigantic. I could never eat it alone. And I’ll never be able to get it home. I have to find another solution.”

Somewhere in his head a light goes off. “I have an idea!”



#### POSSIBLE KEY QUESTIONS

- Do you know what Ant’s idea is? How does he intend to take the cherry home?
- Do you think this idea is good/not so good? Why?
- What would you do ? → slightly suggest co-operation?









Ant summons Snail, Cricket and Bee. “I have got an idea”, Ant says. “If you help me, we’ll have a party at my place and everyone can feast.”

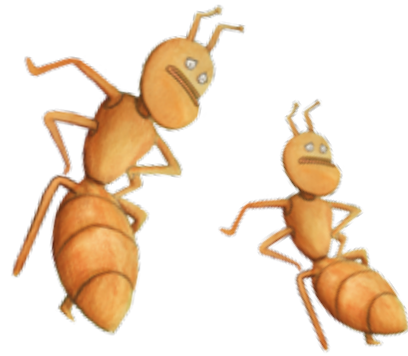
“Yoo-hoo”, Snail, Cricket and Bee cheer in unison. The four friends join forces. Snail puts her shell against the cherry and Cricket pushes with his strong shield. Meantime, Ant and Bee are on top of the cherry and push along with their strong legs. It’s hard work. Eventually, they succeed in getting the cherry near Ant’s little house.











Ant is so happy and relieved that he invites the whole ant family to come and feast with them. All of them together they have a great party.



#### POSSIBLE KEY QUESTIONS

- What has Ant learnt from his adventure?
- What do you think of that?
- Could the Ant have come up with some other solutions to get the cherry home? What solutions?
- How can we practice sharing and working together in our class?
- A nice film on how ants work together (and how people could do this too):  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=fjyTkagc8BI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fjyTkagc8BI)







# Ant has got a problem

Target group: kindergarten 1st year – primary school 1st year

AUTHOR: Herwig Kevelaerts

ILLUSTRATOR: Tim Joye



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