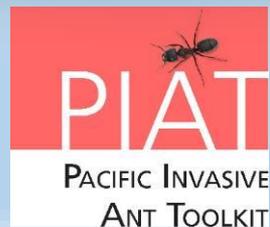


THE



WORST INVASIVE **ANTS** IN THE PACIFIC



What are we going to learn today?

- 1) What are the top five invasive ant pests, the problems they cause people, agriculture and the natural environment.
- 2) Learn about the life cycle and structure of their colony.



Let's recap

In our previous lesson, we

- 1) learnt that an ant is a living thing.
- 2) learnt that not all ants are invasive.
- 3) discussed the positive and negative impacts of ants on our environment.



The five **WORST** invasive **ANTS** in the Pacific



African big-headed ant



Red imported fire ant



Argentine ant



Yellow crazy ant



Little fire ant

You can't tell just by looking at these five ant species that they cause worse problems than any other ants

Invasive Ants Icon Guide



Bites!



Sprays acid!



Stings!



Harms crops



Harms people



Harms wildlife

The five **WORST** invasive **ANTS** in the Pacific



African big-headed ant



Red imported fire ant



Yellow crazy ant



Argentine ant



Little fire ant

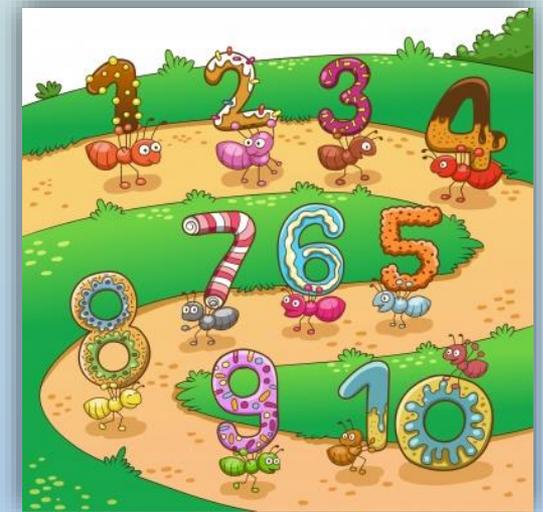


Video on Fire Ants by SPREP



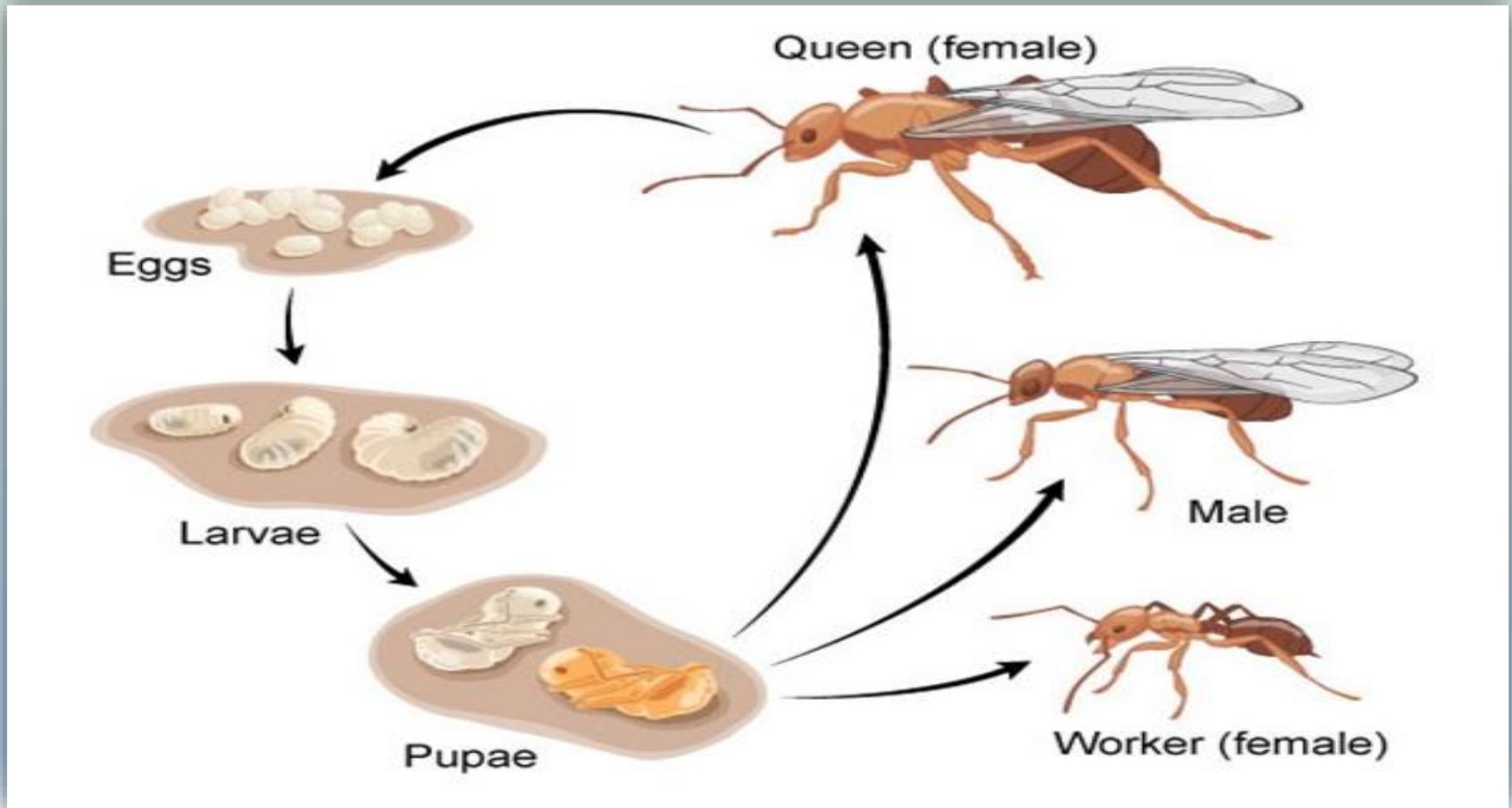
Activity 1

- Discuss the icons and their effects for each of the ant species.
- What do you think their impacts are on:
 - People
 - Agriculture
 - Environment
- Record your discussion on a mind map.



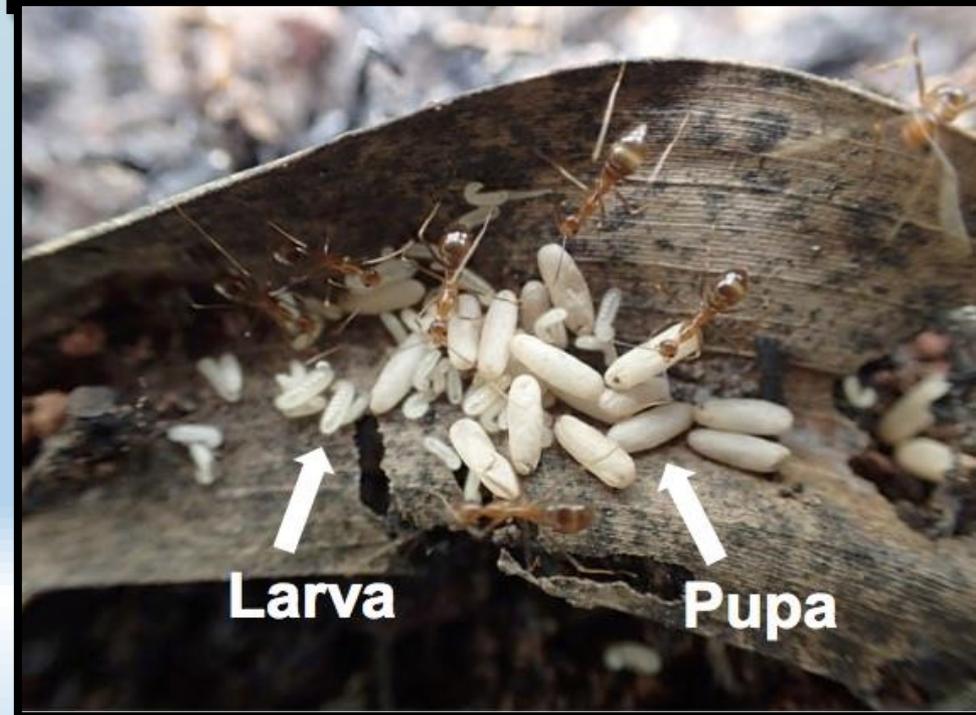
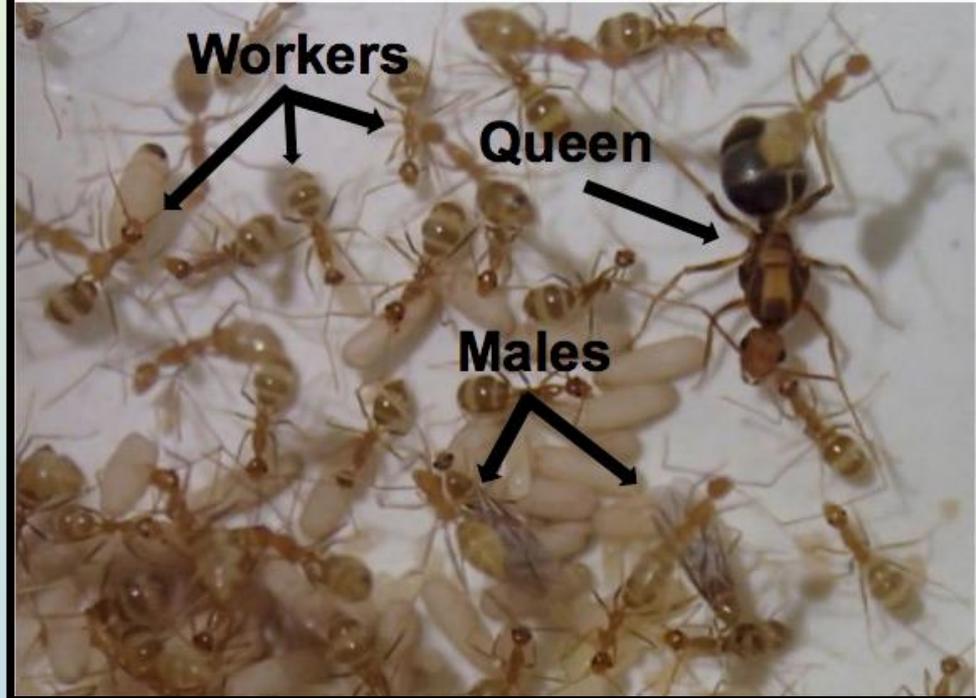
Ant life cycle

Ants go through a number of different stages from egg to adult. They have a 4 stage life-cycle just like the butterfly!



One or more queens lay eggs that develop into new workers, queens and males.

- Ants are social insects. This means that workers look for food, tend the young and protect the nest.
- There is a worker caste that forage, tend the young and protect the nest.
- Queens lay eggs that develop into new workers, queens and males.
- Males, mate with the queens then die - they do not perform any other function.
- Only queens and males can fly, and only for very short distances.
- No ant is capable of flying the distances between Pacific Islands.



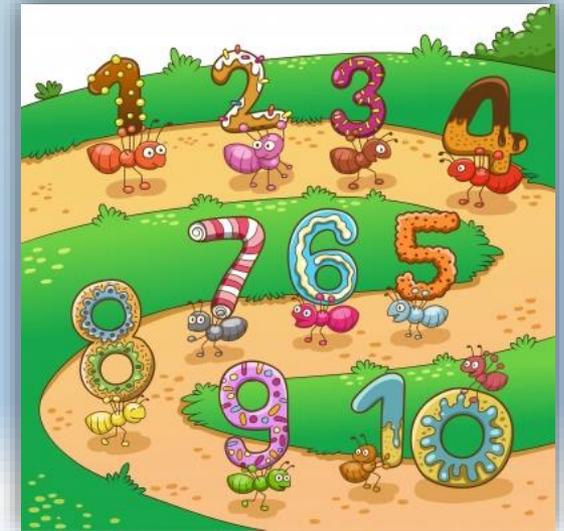
What we have learnt today

- There are 5 worst invasive ants in the pacific.
- Collectively, they bite, spray acid, sting, harm crops, harm people and harm wildlife.
- The ant goes through a 4 stage life-cycle similar to a butterfly.
- Ants are social creatures and they live in colonies where they have specific roles



Share with your family today!

- We had an exciting day today! Can you go back home and share at least 2 ways the invasive ants are harmful?
- You can use the red icons to help guide your sharing!



See you next time!

