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The ants are smarter than humans in certain ways. They are clever, co-operative, and responsible than man. Given below are some interesting facts about the ants clear enough to illustrate that they are smarter than us (at least in certain things!).

Ants carry objects upto 50 times their own weight

Though the ants are diminutive in nature, they are capable of carrying objects upto 50 times their own weight. They use only their mandibles to carry the loads. The ratio of the muscle strength to the size of the ants is much more than ours. This makes them powerful enough to carry loads much heavier than their own weight. Interestingly, if we had the power of the ants then each one of us would have been able to carry a Lamborghini on our own!

Ants existed even during the dinosaur age

The fossil remains of ants reveal that they are said to have evolved over 130 million years ago. Large fossils of ants have been unearthed from the fossilized plant resins. The oldest ant fossil of the now-extinct species, Sphercomyrma freyi, was unearthed in Cliffwood Beach, NJ.

Soldier ants keep the intruders away from their nests

Certain species of ants have soldiers in their group with modified heads larger enough to plug the entrance of their nests, making their heads to peep out of the nest in order to beware the intruders of its presence. When a worker ant from its group returns with the food, it signals the soldier ant by touching its head. Once it recognizes that the member belongs to its colony, the soldier ant paves the way for the worker ants to enter its nest. Man! It is pretty much similar to having the ADT Security Systems to protect our homes, isnâ€™t it?

Ants sense the smell of the scout ants to collect their food

The foraging ants follow the pheromone trails of scout ants and trace their food. The food is carried to their nests and stored for their later use. How do the ants detect their food? First, the scout ant leaves the nest in search of food. Once it finds the food, it grabs it with its mandibles and carries the food to its nest. The other ants in the nest come out and trace the path of the scout ant to reach the food. Medical researchers are of the view that the ants can recall their visual cues which helps them to get back to their nest without any kind of confusion. While returning to its nest, the scout ant deliberately leaves traces of pheromones (scents) for its nest mates to trace out. Thus one ant leads and helps its nest mates to find the food.

Ants can form massive colonies stretching for thousands of miles

The Argentine ants, originally indigenes of South America, are now widely present in countries all over the world. The interesting thing here is that they all have a common connection among them. Each ant in the colony produces certain chemical to makes its group mates aware of its presence and to warn strangers to stay away from their colony. Researchers have stated that the massive supercolonies in Japan, Europe, and North America all had the same chemical spillage; which means all the ants should have spread out from the same supercolonies.

The total biomass of the ants is equal to that of people on Earth

May sound silly but it is true. Believe it or not, scientists have come out with a rough estimation that there are about 1.5 million ants for every human being on earth. This includes over 12,000 species of ants known to exist in every single continent except Antarctica (as it is unfavorable for their survival). This means every single acre of land in Amazon rainforest is populated by 3.5 million ants approximately.

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Cody is a freelance content writer. He writes on a wide range of topics encompassing pets, sports, health, entertainment, technology, and self improvement. He got inspired while penning an article on security systems. He recently installed a ADT Security Systems at home and office to prevent any case of break-ins.

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