

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## The Daily Life of Termites

Termites may be small, but they are incredibly busy creatures with fascinating daily habits. These insects live in large, organized groups called colonies, where every termite has a specific job.

Termites are most active at night and during twilight hours, although some species can work during the day. They avoid bright sunlight because their soft bodies can dry out quickly.

During these hours, worker termites are busy gathering food and building tunnels, while soldiers stand guard to protect the colony from predators like ants.

### Living in Groups

Termites are social insects, meaning they live in large colonies that can have thousands, or even millions, of members. Each termite has a specific role in the colony. Workers gather food and maintain the nest, soldiers defend the colony, and the queen lays eggs to grow the population. This teamwork is essential for the survival of the colony.

### Teamwork and Communication

Termites use special signals to communicate with each other. They leave chemical trails, called pheromones, to guide other termites to food sources. This cooperation helps the colony work efficiently and ensures that no termite is left behind.

### Building and Maintaining Nests

Termites are skilled builders. Depending on the species, they construct their homes underground, in wood, or above ground in large mounds. These nests are carefully designed to regulate temperature and humidity, providing a safe and comfortable environment for the entire colony.

A termite's day is filled with tasks that keep the colony running smoothly. Workers gather cellulose-rich materials like wood and leaves, soldiers guard the entrances to the nest, and the queen focuses on laying eggs. Together, their efforts ensure the survival and growth of the colony.

From gathering food to defending their home, termites are a perfect example of teamwork and efficiency. Despite their tiny size, their daily habits have a huge impact on the environment and their ecosystem.