

Not All Ants Work Hard!

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“Too many cooks spoil the broth.” We have come across this proverb on several instances. Well, this proverb is not only applicable to humans, but also to ants! According to a paper published recently in *Science*, only a few fire ants actually work within a group of several fire ants. The rest of the fire ants are not very industrious in nature. A team of researchers conducted the study on 150 fire ants. Only 10 or 15 fire ants were busy digging, whereas the rest were not that productive. They also observed that when the actively-working ants were taken away from the group, the rest of the fire ants kept on working. The activity that the scientists studied was digging, which is the most important activity for the ants, it being associated with nest building.

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Cite this article

Enago Academy, Not All Ants Work Hard!. Enago
Academy. 2018/08/24. <https://www.enago.com/academy/not-all-ants-work-hard/>