All For One
by Liana Mahoney

A hundred or two, maybe three - perhaps more -
Parade all together on Spring's meadow floor.
They're carrying treasure, yet staying in line,
To bring home a treat so their mother can dine.

A little one wonders, "What WILL the queen say?"
Another one answers, "Hooray! Crumby day!"
But most remain silent – too happy to talk.
They're focused instead on their victory walk.

Each step beats a rhythm of musical glee,
The sound of the joy of the Ants' jubilee.
They're marching as if to the beating of drums,
And all for one triumph:
Discovering crumbs.
1. Line three of the poem says, “They’re carrying treasure, yet staying in line.” What is the treasure that the ants are carrying?

___________________________________________________________________________________

2. Describe one part of this poem that could **not** happen in real life.

___________________________________________________________________________________

3. Describe one part of this poem that **could** happen in real life.

___________________________________________________________________________________

4. Which choice describes the poet’s technique for writing this poem?
   a. She gives detailed information to describe how ants gather food.
   b. She gives the ants human characteristics.
   c. She makes the lives of ants seem mysterious.
   d. She uses scientific terms to describe the ants.

5. According to the words in the poem, a line of ants is similar to....
   a. a football team
   b. a bunch of grasshoppers
   c. hungry bears
   d. a marching band

6. Write another appropriate title for this poem.

___________________________________________________________________________________

Now try this: Read the poem aloud to a friend. Try to read it clearly, in an expressive tone of voice.
Fill in the missing letters to create a word from the poem. Then, write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. __ r __ __ __ __ __ __
   clue: something valuable
   ___________________________________

2. __ __ t r __
   clue: success
   ___________________________________

3. __ __ __ h __ __ __ __
   clue: synonym for maybe
   ___________________________________

4. __ __ __ i __ e __
   clue: cheerful celebration
   ___________________________________

5. __ i __ __ __ e __ __ n __
   clue: finding
   ___________________________________

6. __ __ a d __ __
   clue: field of grass
   ___________________________________

7. __ __ l __ n __
   clue: quiet; not making noise
   ___________________________________
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1. Line three of the poem says, “They’re carrying treasure, yet staying in line.” What is the treasure that the ants are carrying?
   crumbs

2. Describe one part of this poem that could not happen in real life.
   Ants could not talk in real life.

3. Describe one part of this poem that could happen in real life.
   Ants could gather food and take it to the queen in real life.

4. Which choice describes the poet’s technique for writing this poem?
   b. She gives the ants human characteristics.
   c. She makes the lives of ants seem mysterious.
   d. She uses scientific terms to describe the ants.

5. According to the words in the poem, a line of ants is similar to....
   a. a football team
   b. a bunch of grasshoppers
   c. hungry bears
   d. a marching band

6. Write another appropriate title for this poem.
   Answers will vary. Possible answer: Ants’ Jubilee

Now try this: Read the poem aloud to a friend. Try to read it clearly, in an expressive tone of voice.
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Fill in the missing letters to create a word from the poem. Then, write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. t e a s u r e  
   clue: something valuable
   1. treasure

2. v i c t o r y  
   clue: success
   2. victory

3. p e r  
   clue: synonym for maybe
   3. perhaps

4. j u b i l e e  
   clue: cheerful celebration
   4. jubilee

5. d i s c o v e r i n g  
   clue: finding
   5. discovering

6. m e a d o w  
   clue: field of grass
   6. meadow

7. s i l e n t  
   clue: quiet; not making noise
   7. silent