In a field one summer’s day a Grasshopper was hopping about, chirping and singing to its heart’s content. An Ant passed by, bearing along with great toil an ear of corn he was taking to the nest. “Why not come and chat with me,” said the Grasshopper, “instead of toiling and moiling in that way?” “I’m helping to lay up food for the winter,” said the Ant, “and recommend you to do the same.” “Why bother about winter?” said the Grasshopper; we have got plenty of food at present.” But the ant went on its way and continued to toil. When the winter came the grasshopper had no food and found itself dying of hunger, while it saw the ants distributing every day corn and grain from the stores they had collected in the summer. Then the grasshopper knew: “It is best to prepare for the days of necessity.”

Disney’s "The Ant and the Grasshopper” 8:05 min.

The Ant and the Grasshopper Read by LeVar Burton - Asian illustrations 4:30 min.

ESL Printables for The Ant and the Grasshopper - All Ages  Teacher’s Guide for The Ants and the Grasshopper

Step 1: Question Focus: “Responsibility”

Step 2: Produce Questions.

Rules for producing questions:
1. Ask as many questions as you can.
2. Change any statements into questions.
3. Write down every question exactly as stated.
4. Do not stop to discuss, judge, or answer the questions.

Step 3: Improve the Questions.

1) Identify open and closed-ended questions.
2) Change questions: select one question to change from open to closed-ended and one closed question to open-ended.

Example: Closed to open

What was the Grasshopper’s response to the ant’s recommendation?

What are some responses that the ant could have made to the Grasshopper’s question, “Why bother about winter?”
Step 4: Prioritize questions. Identify 2-3 that are the most important. Be able to share a rationale for your choices.

Critical Thinking Questions:
1. ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
2. ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
3. ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________

Step 5: Determine how questions are going to be used: (Evidence of Learning)
   i.e. research project, real life application, assessment creation, discussion, written report, visual representation, oral presentation, etc.
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
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   ___________________________________________

Step 6: Reflection
   How does the example set in this story apply to me?
   ___________________________________________
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