

Lesson 5
READ THIS STORY #2, Basic

Termites

Termites are insects that live in colonies. They have a queen who lays eggs. She is cared for by worker termites. Other termites are members of an army that defends the entire colony.

Termites are destructive. They consume wood. The tiny insects snack on fallen trees, barns, houses, and even furniture. You may never know that they are snacking on your house until they have done a lot of damage.

A termite inspector must be a detective. He must check inside and outside the house. If it's spring, he may look for a pile of small translucent wings lying beside a wall of the house. Some termites construct mud tubes close to water pipes that they use to get from the dirt into your house.

If the inspector finds any evidence that termites have been busy in the house, an exterminator will be hired to get rid of them.