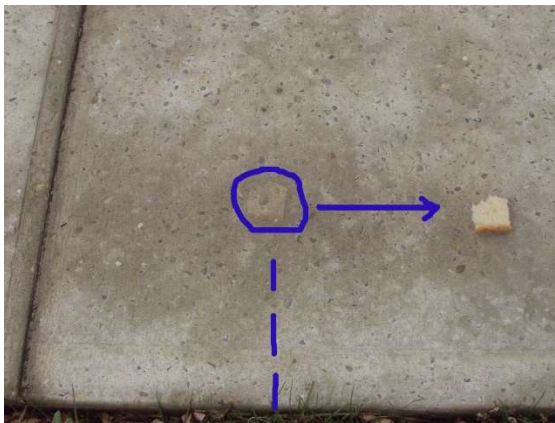


# (Optional) Assignment: How Do Ants Find Food?



Place a piece of bread or cracker on a sidewalk, lawn, or some other place where it will be convenient to check on it, then just leave it alone for a while. Check it after about 30 minutes to see if any ants have found it. If not, check again in 30 or 60 minutes. Try not to let squirrels steal it.

Once ants have found the bread, check to see if there is a line of ants leading from the bread to their colony in the ground. Can you find the colony? Look for ants coming to and going from the colony. Can you see any ants carrying the pieces of bread into their colony?



Look at the ants going to the bread. Are they coming in a single line or from all directions? If the ants are coming in a single line, try moving the bread about 6" – 8" away at about a 90° angle to the line. Wait about 15 minutes or so and then check the bread again. Have the ants found it yet? If not, give them a little more time. If they have found it, check the route that they

travel to the bread. Does the line go directly from the colony to the bread, or does it go to where the bread used to be first and then turn?