

Creative curriculum – bee activities

This week's creative curriculum work links with the story you have listened to in your literacy work this week – *Please please the bees*.

As you will all have different resources, space and people to help you at home, I have tried to find a range of different things so that you can pick one or more that you would like to do.

1. Bee quiz!

Try answering these questions about bees. You may need to use the internet to help you.

1. About how many species of bee do you think there are in the UK?
 - a. 10
 - b. 100
 - c. 250
2. In a foxglove how do you think pollen and nectar are collected by bees?
 - a. With long tongues
 - b. With long legs
 - c. With long tails
3. When a honeybee finds nectar, how does she tell the other bees where it is?
 - a. She does a dance
 - b. She draws a map
 - c. She sings a song
4. If you add up all the journeys made by the bees needed to produce one jar of honey, how much would it total?
 - a. 10 miles
 - b. 1000 miles
 - c. 40,000 miles
5. If we didn't have bees to pollinate food such as beans for us, what would happen?
 - a. We would starve
 - b. Healthy food would be much more expensive
 - c. It would not affect us
6. How does a bumblebee pollinate a tomato flower?
 - a. It dips its legs into it
 - b. Sticks its tongue into it

- c. Buzzes against it so that the pollen falls on its tummy
7. Which of these foods does not need bees for pollination?
- Beans
 - Sweetcorn
 - Watermelon
8. How do plants use berries to spread their seeds to new places?
- They make them tasty so birds eat them
 - They shake the berries off
 - Wait for someone to pick them off and plant them
9. When a bee pollinates a flower, which of these is NOT true
- Some flowers grow into berries that birds eat
 - Some flowers grow into seeds that birds eat
 - Some flowers grow into caterpillars that birds eat

The answers to this quiz will be in the 'mark your own work' document in the Year 2 folder of the school's website next week.

2. Art – make a bee.

You could use junk modelling, collage, or clay to make a model of a bee. It would be even better if you included the thorax, abdomen and head. (This week's science work should help you with this).

If you have a magnet and a peg, you could even make the bee model shown below.

ART: BUSY BEE MAGNET

MATERIALS —

Clothes pin
 Black, yellow and white paint
 Small paint brush
 Black pipe cleaner
 Coffee filter
 Scissors



Courtesy of Busy Bee Crafts

PROCEDURE —

- Step 1:** Paint your clothes pin with black and yellow stripes, the "head" should be black (Suggestion: Paint the yellow stripes first, then the black.)
- Step 2:** Cut about 1" off from around the coffee filter. Scrunch up the coffee filter at the center and insert into the clothes pin to make the bee's wings.

3. Pollinating game

This game is showing you how bees move from one flower to another to collect pollen. While they are doing this, they are pollinating the different plants on their way.

You **must** ask an adult before playing this game, as it may get messy!

Instructions:

1. Draw 8 flowers and place them around the room. (try to spread them around so they are not next to each other)
2. Eat wotsits or any crisp that would usually make your fingers all dusty.
3. Ask someone to time you for 10 seconds. Try to touch all the flowers in 10 seconds.
4. How many flowers did you get?

Facts:

Honey bees are vital to our ecosystem. They pollinate plants when they collect nectar from flowers. Pollen sticks to their legs and bodies. When the bees fly from flower to flower, they spread pollen, helping plants produce fruits and seeds. Birds, insects and other animals eat plants or the fruits that plants grow. Our ecosystem would be plant-less, if it were not for bees.

In this game, your fingers are the bees and the crisp dust is the pollen. Did you get to all the flowers? What will happen to the flowers that aren't pollinated?

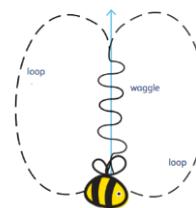
4. Do a waggle dance

Bees and Waggle dancing

If a honey bee finds flowers with a lot of nectar and pollen, she goes back to the nest. She tells the other bees where to go so they can find the flowers as well.

The honey bee does a waggle dance, where she waggles in the direction of the flowers then loops back round, waggles again and loops back round the other way. She repeats this many times. *

To do this dance, walk in the direction of the blue arrow (towards the flower), wiggling your body, then walk back round the start.



If the waggle is longer, the flowers are further away.

5. Draw a bee's favourite flowers.

Below are some flowers that bee's particularly like. Look at them closely, think about what makes them the same and what makes them different. Try using your observation skills to draw them carefully in your book or on paper. If you prefer, you could look up different pictures of these plants to draw.



Lungwort



Ivy



Echinacea



Thyme



Marjoram



Borage



Crab apple tree



Bugle

6. Play an identifying flowers game

For this game you will need at least one other person, it could be an adult or a child.

Draw or print some flowers that bees like. These could be the 8 above or you could do some research and find out about other plants and flowers.

Write the name of the flower on the back, and place the flowers around the room. One person is the caller – they will call the name of the flower and the other person will go to that flower to collect the pollen.

If you have more than 2 people playing, you may need to do the waggle dance while you are waiting your turn!

If the bee does not know which flower it is, the caller can give more descriptions until they do.

7. Play – Roll a bee

Roll a Bee

Discuss how many of each body part a bee has before you start and where they join together. You could draw the bee picture shown in the margin.

Play this in groups about 4 children. Each takes it in turns to roll the dice. They need a 6 to start, when they can draw a body (abdomen and thorax). After that, each time they roll, they can add the right body parts

5 for the head

4 for legs

3 for the wings

2 for the eyes

1 for antennae.

First to complete and shout BUZZY BEE wins each round.

8. Make a salt dough model of a bee hive.

See if you can even include the hexagonal pattern of the honey comb?

You **must** ask an adult before make salt dough and before you turn on the oven.



salt dough recipe:

You will need:

- 1 cupful of plain flour (about 250g)
- half a cupful of table salt (about 125g)
- half a cupful of water (about 125ml)

Method

1. Preheat the oven to its lowest setting and line a baking sheet with baking parchment.
2. Mix the flour and salt in a large bowl. Add the water and stir until it comes together into a ball.
3. Transfer the dough to a floured work surface and shape into your chosen model. You can roll it out and cut out shapes, numbers or letters using biscuit cutters, or make any kind of model you can think of. We made some fruit and veg shapes plus cupcakes for a teddy bear's picnic.

4. Put your finished items on the lined baking sheet and bake for 3 hrs or until solid.

5. Leave to cool and then paint.

