

Bee egg



Bee egg



Bee larvae



Bee larvae



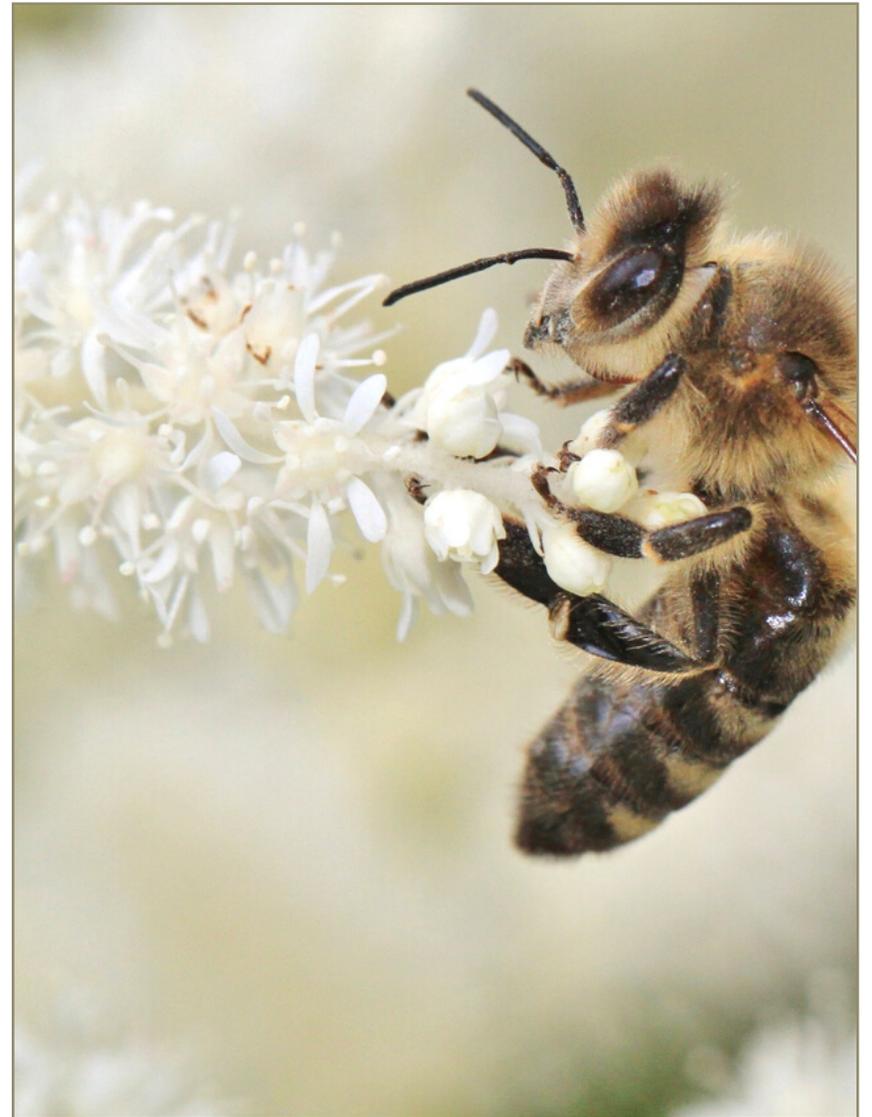
Bee pupa



Bee pupa



Bee



Bee



Wild bee hive



Wild Bee hive



Wild bee hive



Wild Bee hive



Man-made bee hive



Man-made bee hive



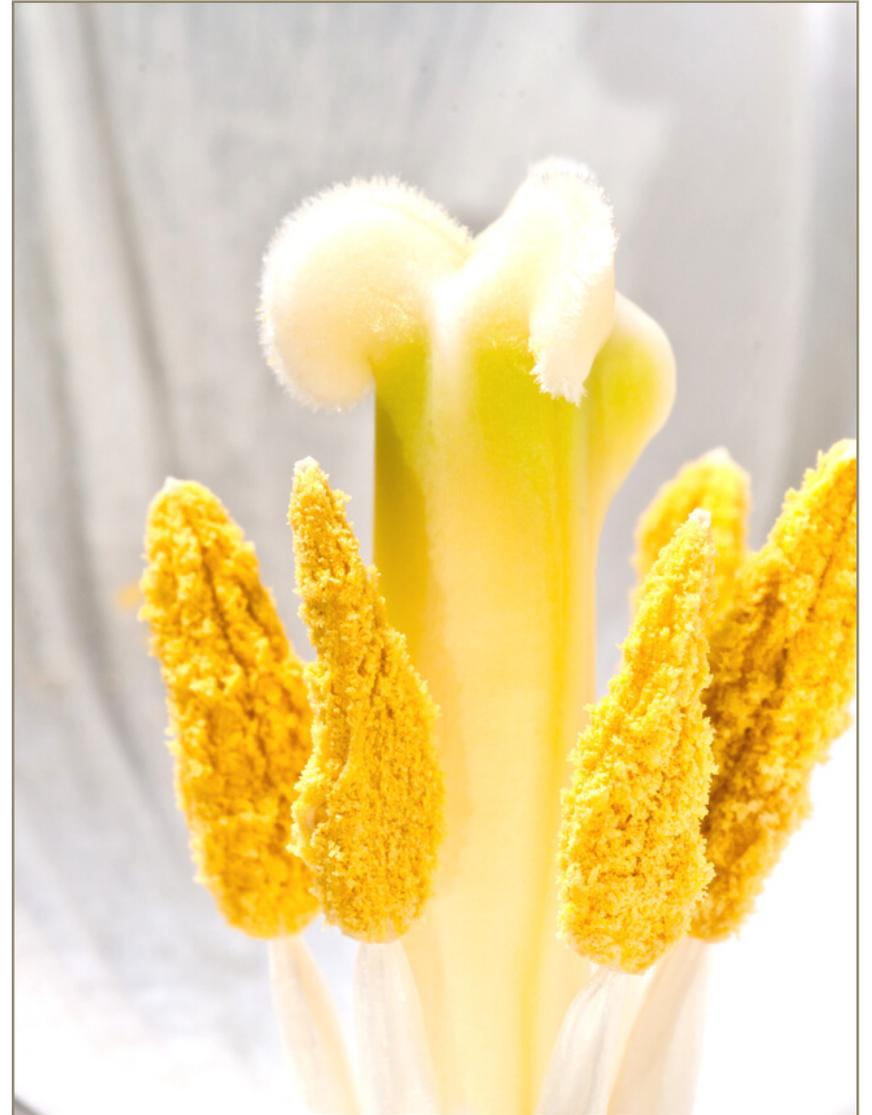
Honey comb



Honey comb



Pollen



Pollen



Honey



Honey



D

P

B



K

B

H



B

C

H



M

T

H



V

H

M



D

B

P

## *Bee clip alphabet cards*

Simply cut out each card around the white border to form your mini flash cards, - then see if your child can guess each picture and put a clip or counter on the correct letter-



F

E

B



K

B

L



P

B

H



## What is a Bee?

Bees are winged insect. Like all insects, a bee's body is divided into three parts: a head with two antennae, a thorax with six legs, and an abdomen. Bees have 2 pairs of wings. Only the female bees have stingers and will only sting if threatened. There are around 20 thousand species of bees in the world. Many bee species have black and yellow coloration, but many do not—they actually come in a variety of colors, including green, blue, red, or black. Some are striped, and some even have a metallic sheen. They range in size from large carpenter bees and bumble bees to the tiny *Perdita minima* bee, which is less than two millimeters long..



## Why are bees important?

As bees forage, they perform the critical act of pollination. As a bee enters a flower to feed on nectar and gather pollen, some of the pollen sticks to the bee's body. When the bee flies on, it deposits some of that pollen on the next flower it visits, resulting in fertilization, allowing the plant to reproduce and to generate the fruits and seeds that us humans as well as many animals rely on. In fact, bees pollinate a staggering 80 percent of all flowering plants, including approximately 75 percent of the fruits, nuts, and vegetables grown in the USA.



## Life stages of a bee

All bee species pass through **four** stages (**egg**, **larvae**, **pupa**, and **adult**) Bee **eggs** are laid by the female bee inside the nest. They look like tiny grains of rice .After three days, the egg forms into a **larvae**, which resembles a small white grub. After about six days, the honey bee larvae are covered with beeswax inside a hexagonal cell.They then become pupa. The pupa stage lasts seven to fourteen days, depending on the type of honey bee (queen, worker, or drone). After the pupa stage is complete, the adult bee is ready to chew itself out of the cell .It can take 14-24 days from egg to adult depending on the species.



## How do bees make honey?

Only honey bees produce honey and they do this by finding flowers,they then use their long tongue like a straw to suck nectar,(a sugary juice), out of the plant.The nectar is stored in a second stomach, also known as the “honey stomach.” After they have filled up their second stomach, the bees will return to their hive and start to pass the nectar through their mouths to other bees. These bees will chew on the nectar for about 30 minutes. Then they pass it along to another bee! As the nectar is passed from bee to bee, it is turned into honey.Once the nectar becomes honey, it gets stored in honeycomb cells in the hive, which act as little jars made of wax. The bees then flap their wings over the honey to make it thicker and more like syrup instead of sweet juice.Once the honey is ready, the bees will seal the cell using a wax lid to store it for later.

# WHAT I NOW KNOW ABOUT A *bee*



What does a bee look like?

---

---

---

---

---

---

Why is a bee so important?

---

---

---

---

---

---

What are the 4 stages of a bees life stage ?

---

---

---

---

---

---

Fun fact you have learnt

---

---

---

---

---

---

How long does it take for a egg to become a bee ?

---

---

# LIFE CYCLE OF A *bee*

Cut and sequence the pictures in the correct order.

1

EGG

2

LARVAE

3

PUPA

4

ADULT



# PUZZLE TIME!

Cut out the ten pieces of the puzzle and then count to ten to put them in order. Can you spot the bee?

