



## Day 14: Honey Bees

### Honey!

Bees and flowers have a **symbiotic relationship**, that means bees help flowers and flowers help bees. Bees help flowers **pollinate**, and in return, they get food from the flowers. Many flowers depend on bees to help them make new seeds and fruits. In return, the flowers give the bees pollen and nectar that is essential for the hive to use. **Honey** is made by bee saliva! One bee chews pollen and passes it on to another bee, this is repeated until honey is produced!



Honey Bees have complex social lives. There are three types of bees: First is the **Queen** who lays the eggs. Then we have the **Workers**, females that gather food, make honey and tend to the eggs, did I mention, they also build the cells? Finally, there are the **Drones**, who mate with the queen.

Bees are a crucial part of our ecosystem, and without them, we wouldn't be able to grow a lot of the fruits and nuts we love to eat today! When you see a bee, remember: it won't bother you if you don't bother her. She has a very busy day trying to collect food for her large family!

### Awesome Bee Videos:

- [Bees and our food](#)
- [How bees make honey](#)
- [Beekeeping Documentary](#)

### Telling the Bees

Bees have always played an important role in human history. One interesting tradition was:

*"telling the bees."* This meant a family member would go to a hive and inform the bees of any important life events, such as births, marriages, and deaths. Here is a link to find out more about bee history: [Bees and Humans](#)

### Waggle With It

Bees have an incredible ability to communicate with one another using a dance called the **Waggle Dance**. Using the Waggle Dance, bees can tell each other where very specific food spots are. Today, we are challenging you to become a bee and learn the waggle dance! All you need is a small object and a partner or two! Here's how you play: Pretend that you are a worker bee. You need to tell your sister bee where to find the best flowers after a long winter. You have to create a specific set of dance moves to tell others where the flowers are! Pick a spot in your backyard to hide your pollen (your "pollen" can be a tennis ball, candy, a cool rock, etc). Make sure your partner isn't looking when you hide your pollen somewhere in the yard. After coming back to your designated starting spot, you and your partner can agree on which directional dance moves to use. You have 5 different dance moves: straight, backward, left, right and wiggle, 1 wiggle = 1 step. You must communicate where you hid your pollen at the designated starting spot **without speaking!** If you need an example, [click here to watch a video I made explaining the game.](#)

**Journal Prompt:** Go to your chosen sit spot, can you count how many bees you see while there? Write it down in your journal.

**Share your Findings or Creations** with us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

**Tomorrow's Theme:** Native Bees

**Time to explore!** Maura, Mud Queen