

Busy Buzzy Bumble Bee Game

Location — Park or in the classroom

Bees are attracted to purple and violet coloured petals, even more so than blue petals! It has been found that when a bee visits a purple flower, rather than a blue flower, they are able to collect 41% more nectar. When out with your class, ask them to see how many purple flowers they can find – if there are many, then they should be able to find lots of bees. Please do not pick the flowers as the bees and insects need them.

Bees are very important in the pollination process. This game helps children understand the relationship between a bee and a flower. Both rely on each other – without one, both would die.



Bee on Lavender

Preparation and activity time

Prep time: 10 minutes **Activity Time:** 10–15 minutes

You will need:

- A bumble bee cuddly toy
- Sticky Velcro pads – to attach onto underside of bee
- String – to tie around bee, letting it fly
- Yellow foam, cut up into small bits – can use washing up sponges



**Velcro on underside
of bee**

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1. Ask 5 or 6 children to come up to the front of the class. Ask them what their favourite flower is and then tell them that they are going to pretend to be that flower.
2. Ask them to stand with their hands in a cup shape in front of them. Place pieces of the yellow sponge into their hands – this represents pollen.
3. The other children are going to make the sound effects for the game. As the bee flies around the children at the front, the others should make a buzz noise.
4. The bee then sniffs a lovely smell as it flies around the head of one of the children. As it does this, the children sitting down should make a sniffing sound.
5. The bee then decides to go into the flower to drink the nectar. As it does this, the leader should place the yellow sponge onto the underside of the bee, using Velcro, which should be attached prior to activity. As the bee drinks the nectar, the children sitting down should make a slurping sound.
6. When the bee has had enough to drink from this flower, the process begins again – the bee flies around the heads of the other children acting as flowers and the sound effects continue.
7. As it flies towards another flower and begins to fly down for the nectar, some of the pollen / yellow sponge from the previous flower rubs off and is placed onto the head of the child. More pollen is attached to the bee from the child's hands.
8. Repeat the whole process until all 'flowers' have been visited by the bee.

The pollen in hand = the male part of the flower – the stamen.
The pollen on head = the female part of flower – the stigma



Bee with pollen

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