

A close-up photograph of two honey bees on white flowers with yellow centers. The background is a soft-focus green. A dark blue banner with rounded corners is overlaid on the bottom of the image, containing the title.

AITC Pollination Kit

Contents

- [These Bees Count](#) book
- Honey Bee Mix seed packet
- Activity Suggestions:
 - Bumblebee Bookmarks
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 - Pollinator Matching Cards



Bumblebee Bookmarks

Explore the importance of bees to the growth of fruits, vegetables, and plants. Discuss the role they play as pollinators.

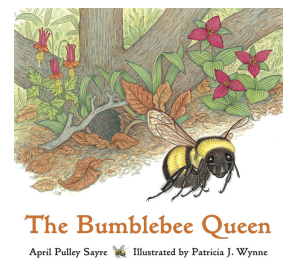
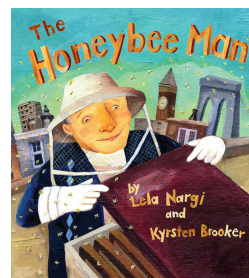
Directions

- 1 Discuss with children why bees are so important to farmers. Point out that many of the foods that they enjoy are pollinated by bees.
2. Give each child a wooden craft stick. Use the yellow and black markers to color alternating sections of yellow and black on the stick to create the bee's body.
3. Glue the yellow pom-pom to the top of the stick. Then glue 2 eyes to the pompom.
4. Twist a white pipe cleaner around the middle of the stick to form wings.
5. Cut a 2 inch piece off of the black pipe cleaner. Twist it around the top of the stick to create the antennae.

Supplies

- Wooden craft sticks
- Black and white pipe cleaners
- “Googly” eyes
- Craft glue
- Yellow and black markers
- Large yellow pom-poms

Suggested Books





Flower Power Pollination

To enhance children's comprehension of the pollination process. Children will engage in a hands on representation of pollen sticking to bees fuzzy legs as they visit multiple flowers.

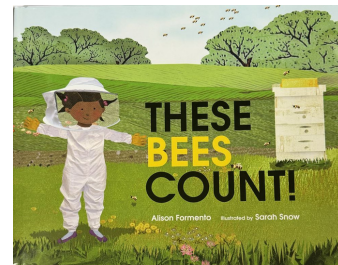
Directions

1. Read *These Bees Count*. Discuss what happens when a pollinator, like the bees, visits a flower and drinks the nectar. (**Answer:** Pollen sticks to their fuzzy legs and some falls off when they visit a different flower. This is how the flowers are pollinated).
2. Explain to the students that they are going to create a bee that visits different flowers and they will see how the pollen is "collected" and transferred.
3. Give students a bee template to color and cut out.
4. Hand out a cotton ball to each student and have them glue their bee to one side of the cotton ball.
5. Allow students time to color their flowers. Instruct them to leave the centers blank.
6. Place 3-5 different colors of chalk at tables. Students will color the center of each flower with a different color chalk.
7. Model for students how to "fly" their bee to a flower and gently land in the "pollen." Then they fly to another flower and observe what happens when they land in another color "pollen." Discuss as a group.

Supplies

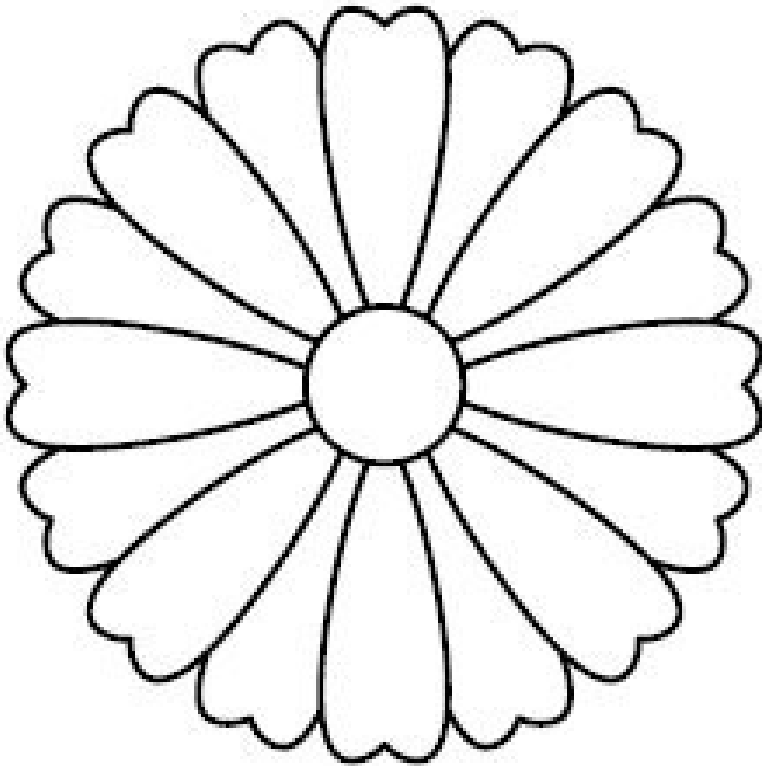
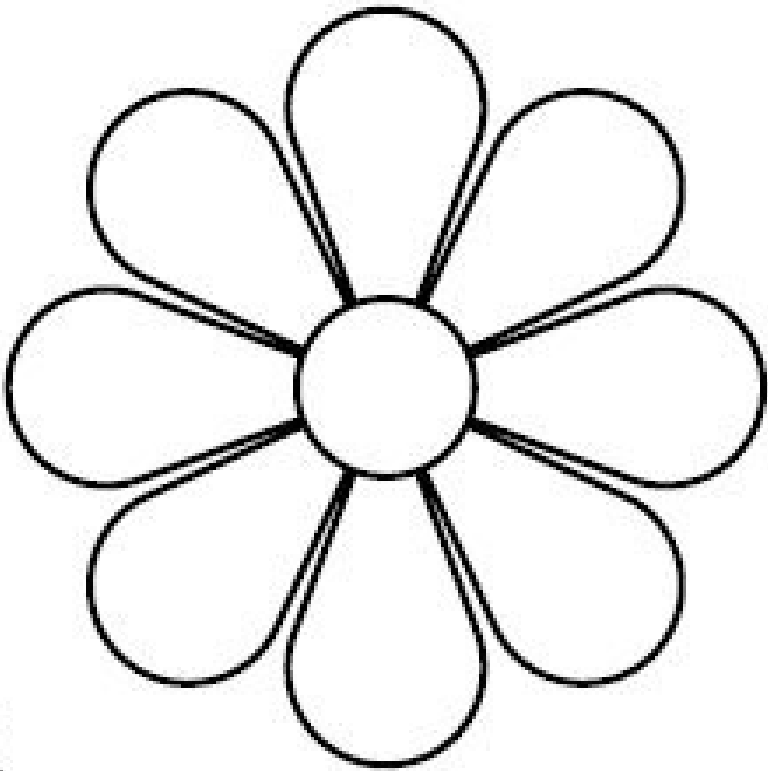
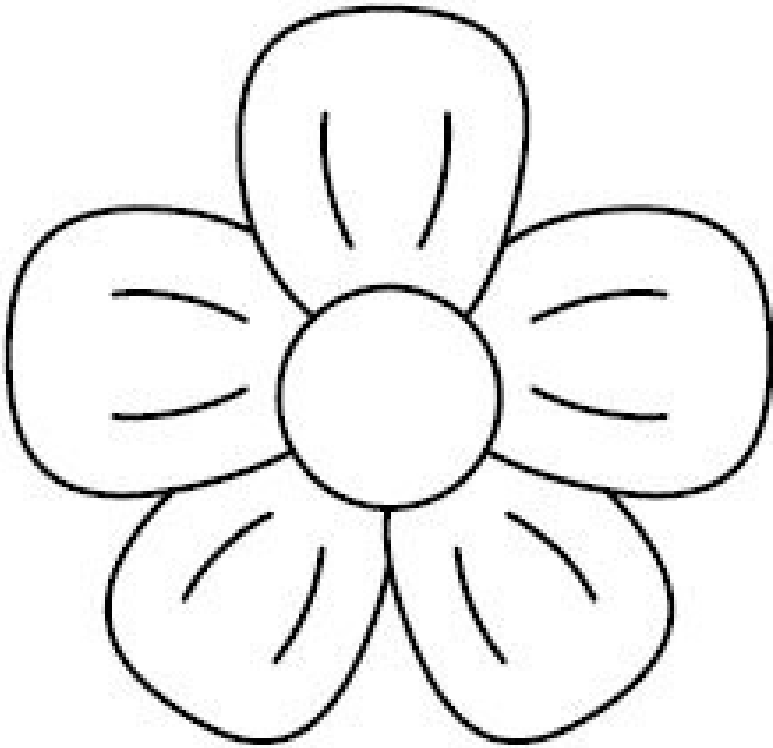
- Cotton balls (one per child)
- Chalk (Various colors; not pastels)
- Flower template
- Bee template (one per child)
- Crayons , colored pencils or markers
- Liquid glue

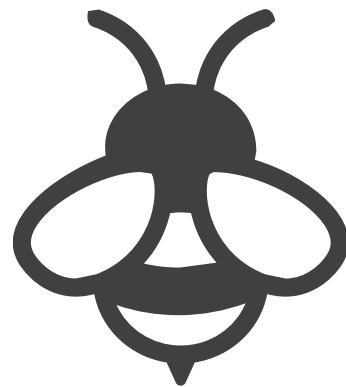
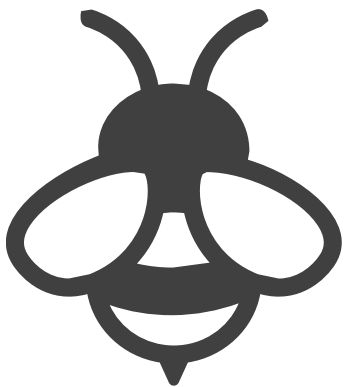
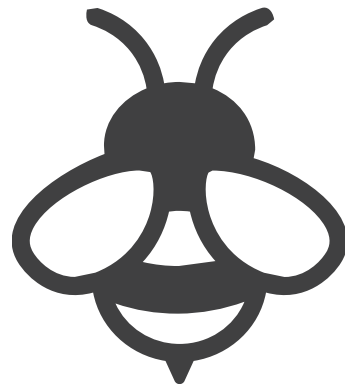
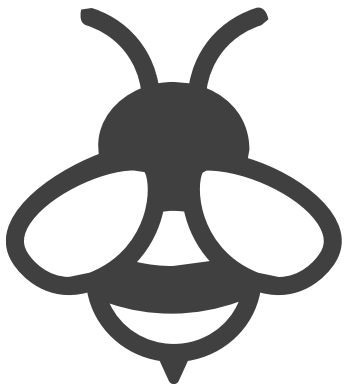
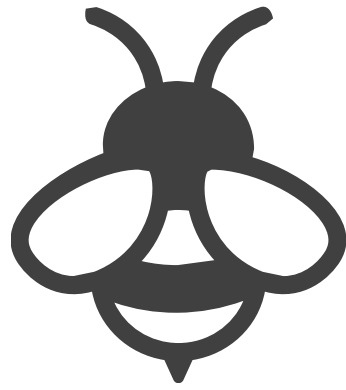
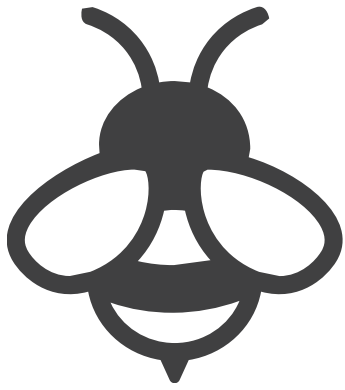
Suggested Books



Extension Ideas:

Ask students to name other pollinators besides bees. Use the pollinator matching cards to deepen their knowledge.







Honey Bee

Hummingbird

**Monarch
Butterfly
Caterpillar**

Beetle

Bat

**Gray
Hairstreak
Butterfly**

Visit flowers to get pollen or nectar for their food.

Sheds, or molts, its skin five times before the pupa stage.

Uses smell, sight, and echolocation to find flowers.

Fly up to 60 mph, wings beat 20-170 beats per second.

Largest group of pollinators and have been around for 200,000,000 years!

Before their final stage, they have been known to cause damage to certain crops in their caterpillar stage.



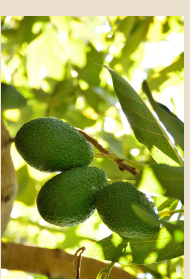
Almonds



Apples



Milkweed



Avocado



Figs



Peaches



Blueberries



Magnolia Tree



Salvia



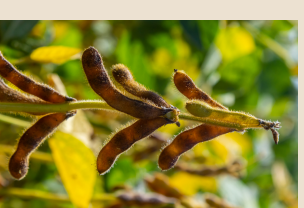
Honeysuckle



Spirea Shrub



Mallow plant



ex. of legume



Alfalfa plant