

Ideas for Bee Learning Activities

Beginning Level

Need more ideas for your beekeeping project? There are lots of things you can do! You are being asked to complete at least five activities each year. Use this list and your imagination, and then write your ideas in your Beekeeping Project and Record Book. Have fun!

About the Hive

- Describe the ideal location for a beehive.
- Keep a daily hive activity record. Compare it to a friend's who is also taking this project.
- Describe why honeycombs get darker as they get older.
- Explain how much space is needed between each comb.
- Draw and label a diagram of a hive structure and explain the purpose of each part.
- Research and explain how activity at the hive entrance can tell beekeepers about bee health.

General Beekeeping Knowledge

- Demonstrate how to put on your beekeeping gear.
- Collect all of your beekeeping equipment and explain to someone what each piece is for.
- Give a demonstration on how to treat bee stings.
- Observe an experienced beekeeper care for his or her hive.

Bee Anatomy and Life Cycle

- Name and draw the three types (castes) of honeybees.
- Describe the role of each caste of bee.
- Describe the types of worker bees.
- Explain the life cycle of the brood.
- Explain how to care for your hive in each season, not just summer.
- Write up a brief history of beekeeping.
- Describe the characteristics of Italian bees.
- Describe the characteristics of Carniolan bees.
- Describe the characteristics of Africanized honey bees.
- Label and define all the parts of a bee.

Plants and Pollination

- Name at least four crops that *must* be pollinated by honeybees to produce food.
- Name at least four crops that have higher yields if honeybees visit them.
- Make a list of honey plants.
- In your garden, plant some plants especially suited for honey production.

Bee Products

- List and describe products people use, other than honey, produced by bees.
- Describe the process of how bees make honey.

