

BACKYARD ECOSYSTEM

A THE AMAZING BEE SCIENCE @ HOME Grades K-3 ACTIVITY



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Parent Resources for Amazing Honey Bee

Goals of this lesson:

- Students will read facts about the honey bee from a bulleted list
- Students will identify parts of the honey bee using definitions

For additional information, copy and paste these links into your browser:

Making honey and beekeeping:

<https://clever.discoveryeducation.com/learn/player/9f7554bc-dfb6-497f-ac33-604d676000f1>

Sid the Science Kid investigates honey and honey bees:

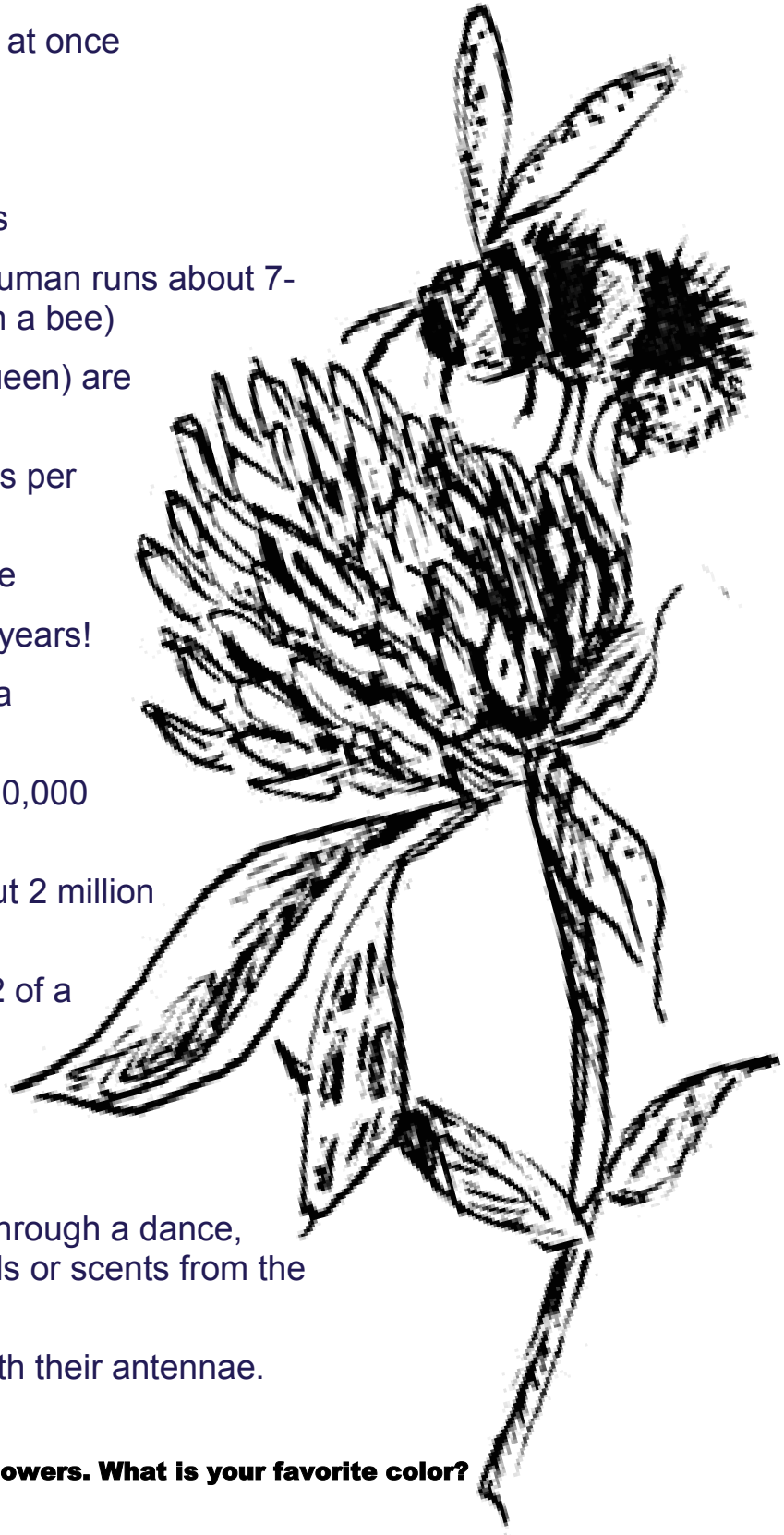
<https://clever.discoveryeducation.com/learn/player/e909d586-d0a7-40c7-9a15-a05b03bca133>



The Amazing Honey Bee

Bees are important because they pollinate about 130 crops in the United States including fruit, fiber, nut, and vegetable crops. Here are more amazing facts about the bee:

- Bees have 5 eyes and can see 5 ways at once
- Bees are insects, so they have 6 legs
- Bees have 2 pairs of wings
- Male bees in the hive are called drones
- Bees fly about 20 mph (The average human runs about 7-1/2 mph, so most people cannot outrun a bee)
- Female bees in the hive (except the queen) are called worker bees
- The queen bee can lay up to 2000 eggs per day
- Losing its stinger will cause a bee to die
- Bees have been here about 30 million years!
- Bees carry pollen on their hind legs in a pollen basket (or corbicula)
- An average beehive can hold around 50,000 bees
- Foragers must collect nectar from about 2 million flowers to make 1 pound of honey
- The average forager makes about 1/12 of a teaspoon of honey in their lifetime
- Americans consume an average of 1-1/3 pounds of honey per person, per year
- The main ways bees communicate is through a dance, called the waggle dance, and the smells or scents from the flowers they visit.
- Bees don't have a nose. They smell with their antennae.



Bees are attracted to colorful and fragrant flowers. What is your favorite color?

Parts of the Honey Bee

Use the definitions below to complete the labels on the honey bee.

- **Eyes** - bees can see in 5 directions at once
- **Antennae** - the bee's nose
- **Proboscis** - the bee's mouth which acts like a straw for the bee to suck in nectar
- **Legs** - bees are insects and have 6 legs
- **Forewing** - mainly used to fly
- **Hindwing** - used to cool the hive
- **Thorax** - the mid-section of the bee's body with many muscles
- **Pollen Baskets** - where the bee collects pollen on it's hind legs
- **Abdomen** - contains the bee's stomach
- **Stinger** - a part of the bee's abdomen, the stinger is the bee's protection

