

A Report on the Busy Honeybee

Learning objective: To identify the features of a non-chronological report and retrieve information from a text.

Read the report below about Bea the honeybee. Answer the questions carefully, making sure to use full sentences.

The honeybee is a fascinating insect that plays a vital role in our natural world. Honeybees live in large groups called colonies, which are usually found in hives. Each colony has one queen, many workers, and some drones. The worker bees are all female and spend their days searching for nectar in colourful flowers. When a bee lands on a flower, yellow pollen sticks to its fuzzy body. As the bee flies to the next plant, it helps to pollinate the flowers, which allows seeds and fruits to grow. A honeybee has six legs, two pairs of wings, and a striped abdomen. They use their sensitive antennae to smell and feel their surroundings. Because they are very busy, honeybees communicate with each other by performing a special 'waggle dance' to show their friends where the best flowers are hiding. Protecting honeybees is important because they help our gardens and farms thrive. Without these hardworking creatures, we would have far fewer fruits and vegetables to enjoy on our dinner plates.

Word bank: colony · nectar · pollinate · abdomen · habitat · antennae

1. What are the three types of bees that live in a honeybee colony? (2 marks)

2. How do honeybees communicate with their friends to share the location of flowers? (2 marks)

3. Why does the author suggest that honeybees are helpful to farmers? (2 marks)

4. What might happen to a flower if a honeybee never visited it? (2 marks)

5. Do you think honeybees are important creatures? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a diagram of a honeybee landing on a flower. Label the antennae, the six legs, and the striped abdomen.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about another insect you find in your garden, using subheadings like 'Appearance', 'Diet', and 'Interesting Facts'.