



Lesson Plan – The Buzz About Bees

Students will learn about the life cycle of bees and the important role that bees play in every aspect of the ecosystem.

Materials Needed:

Access to online resources or to books and reference materials

Time:

Three or four science class periods of about 30 minutes each can be allocated for this lesson plan.

Procedure:

Divide students into two teams. **Team 1** will research the life cycle of bees and create a poster or a presentation to share using Google Slides or another collaborative website. **Team 2** will research the benefits of bees to the environment and to the food system and create a poster or presentation to share using Google Slides or another collaborative website.

Suggested tasks for Team 1 to complete and/or questions to answer (teams can add to the list):

- Draw/illustrate the life cycle of a bee.
- What is the role of the queen bee? Drone bee? Worker bee?
- How do bees care for their young?
- What do bees eat and drink?
- How many miles do bees typically fly each day?
- Describe a bee's habitat.
- How long does a bee usually live under normal circumstances?
- What are a bee's natural predators?

Suggested tasks for Team 2 to complete and/or questions to answer (teams can add to the list):

- How do bees contribute to the biodiversity in our world?
- What is buzz pollination?
- Are bees attracted to particular colors?
- What types of plant species do bees prefer for nectar?
- What are some vegetables and fruits that rely on pollination from bees? (Give examples of foods that need pollination and foods that don't need it.)
- Why are bees at risk of extinction?
- What can we do to help increase bee populations in our community?

Outcome/Result:

Students will gain a deeper understanding about the life cycle of bees, the many benefits of bees to the environment, and the process by which bees support the growth of plants in our food system.



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