

Important Facts About Honeybees

1. Honeybees are pollinators for flowers, fruits, and vegetables. Pollination is an important part of the growth cycle

2. Honeybees produce honey and beeswax. These are used world-wide for food and products such as candles and crayons.

3. Honeybees live in colonies. Each colony consists of a Queen, Worker Bees, Larvae (baby bees), and Drones.

4. Worker Bees are always girls. They are in charge of cleaning the hive, feeding the babies, drones, and the Queen, building the honeycomb, and gathering nectar and pollen.

5. Drones are always boys, and their only job is to mate with the Queen so that more bees will be born.

6. The Queen Bee lays about 1,000 eggs every day.

7. It takes less than a month for the eggs to hatch into larvae (grubs) and then to grow into adult bees.



8. Honeybees can make their own hive, or they can live in hives made by humans.

9. Honeybees fly up to 15 m.p.h., and beat their wings 200 times per second! The fast moving wings are what makes the buzzing sound.

10. Each bee makes about 1/12 of a teaspoon of honey in its lifetime. It takes about 556 bees and 2 million flowers to make a pound of honey!

11. Honey is made when the worker bees fan their wings over the honeycomb to evaporate the water from the nectar. When the liquid is thick enough, they cap the honeycomb with more wax.

12. Honeybees live on stored pollen and honey all winter, and cluster together into a ball to stay warm.

13. Honeybees do a "waggle dance" to tell other bees in the hive where to find more nectar.

14. The Queen Bee can live at least 2 years, and sometimes as long as 4 years. Drones live about 4-6 months, and worker bees live about 2 months.

15. Only female bees have a stinger.



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