

Bees & Other Pollinators



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Pollinator Facts

- Pollinators are insects and animals who carry pollen from plant to plant, to enable plants to reproduce, in order for crops, fruits and vegetables to grow.
- **Pollinators include thousands of different types of bees, but also birds, butterflies, beetles, wasps, ants, moths, bats and other small animals.**
- It is estimated that at least 1/3 (or 1 bite out of every 3 bites) of food humans eat has been provided by pollinators.
- **In other words, pollinators are essential. Without them, our food supply and natural ecosystems would collapse!**



Build a bug hotel...

It's easy! Collect suitable materials like pieces of wood, tubes, sticks, moss, straw, old tiles/bricks, etc. Add a roof to keep it dry. Put some wildflower seeds, dry leaves, sticks and stones inside. See: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/nature-on-your-doorstep/garden-activities/build-a-bug-hotel/>



How YOU can help pollinators!

- ✓ Plant bee-friendly plants and flowers. Note that some flowers/plants are genetically altered to not have nectar/pollen, so choose carefully.
- ✓ Don't use pesticides – they kill insects and reduce food for birds/small animals. Find out how to garden naturally instead.

Make a video on 5 things you can do to help pollinators.

Find out more:

<https://www.pollinator.org/7things> and <https://blog.nwf.org/2021/06/10-ways-to-save-pollinators/>

Science Corner

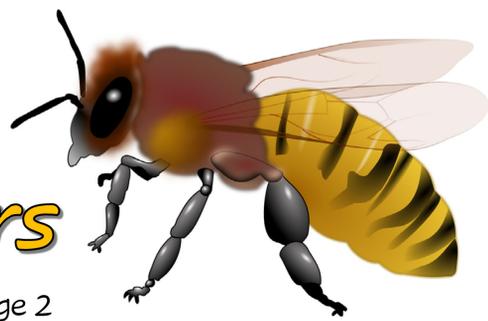
Create a poster or table showing the main similarities and differences between **the ANATOMY of a bee and another pollinator of your choice.**

Helpful website:

<https://beeprofessor.com/anatomy-of-a-honey-bee-beginners-guide/>



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Some Pollinator Celebration Dates – get involved!



Bee Day 20 May https://www.gov.si/en/registries/projects/world-bee-day/	Pollinator Week 19-25 June 2023 https://www.pollinator.org/pollinator-week	Big Butterfly Count 14 Jul-6 Aug 2023 https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org/	International Bat Night 26-27 August 2023 https://www.bats.org.uk/support-bats/international-bat-night
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What is Honey?

Honey is made from flower nectar by some bees as an ongoing and winter food supply for themselves. Only honeybees and a few other bee species make honey.

Get some more facts about honey:

<https://honey.com/about-honey/how-honey-is-made> and <https://theconversation.com/curious-kids-how-do-bees-make-honey-143450>



Word Web

Find out what these terms mean:

- **Pollination**
- **Pollinator health**
- **Biodiversity**
- **Sustainable agriculture**
- **Food security**

How do these relate to pollinators?



Researcher Zone

If you're interested in finding out more, or want to create a fact file on pollinators, here are some resources to get you started:

- Pollinator Partnership: <https://www.pollinator.org/>
- WWF – Top 10 Facts About Bees: <https://www.wwf.org.uk/learn/fascinating-facts/bees>
- Bee Identification Guide: <https://friendsoftheearth.uk/nature/bee-identification-guide>
- Identify Different Types of Bees: <https://www.treehugger.com/how-identify-different-types-bees-4864333>
- Nature Friendly Farming Network: <https://www.nffn.org.uk/>

