Name:_____

The Busy World of Honeybees

Inside the Hive

Honeybees are social insects that live together in large groups called colonies. A single hive can contain tens of thousands of bees working together as a team. Every bee has a specific job to keep the colony healthy. The queen bee lays all the eggs, while thousands of female worker bees clean the hive, care for young bees, and build wax combs to store food. Male bees, called drones, help protect the queen.

Hardworking Foragers

When worker bees get older, they leave the hive to look for food. These gathering bees are called foragers. Foragers fly from flower to flower searching for sweet liquid called nectar and powdery pollen. Bees use nectar to make honey, which feeds the colony during the cold winter months. A single honeybee visits hundreds of flowers on just one trip to gather enough food.



Important Pollinators

As honeybees travel between blossoms to gather food, tiny pollen grains stick to their fuzzy bodies. When the bees land on the next flower, some of that pollen rubs off. This process is called pollination. Pollination allows plants to grow seeds, fruits, and vegetables. Without honeybees pollinating crops, farmers would grow much less food, including apples, berries, and nuts. Honeybees play a vital role in keeping our world's food supply growing.

© www.theteachersguide.com

Name:_____

1. What is the main idea of the section Hardworking Foragers?

A. Worker bees build wax combs inside the hive.

B. Honeybees spend their lives avoiding cold winter weather.

C. Older worker bees travel outside the hive to gather nectar and pollen.

D. A single honeybee visits hundreds of flowers on just one trip.

2. Main Idea: Honeybees are essential for helping plants produce food.

Which two details from the section *Important Pollinators* best support this main idea?

A. Pollen grains stick to the fuzzy bodies of honeybees.

B. Farmers would grow much less fruit and produce without honeybee pollination.

C. Foragers gather sweet nectar from blossoms to make honey.

D. Pollination allows plants to grow new seeds, fruits, and vegetables.

E. Honeybees store food in wax combs to survive the winter.

3. This question has two parts.

Part A

What is the central main idea of the entire passage?

A. Queen bees are the only members of the hive that leave to find food.

B. Honeybees work in organized roles to support their colony and help plants grow.

C. Honeybees are dangerous insects that farmers try to keep away from crops.

D. Making honey is the only reason honeybees visit flowers.

Part B

Which sentence from the passage best supports the answer to Part A?

A. "A single hive can contain tens of thousands of bees working together as a team."

B. "Male bees, called drones, help protect the queen."

C. "Bees use nectar to make honey, which feeds the colony during the cold winter months."

D. "Without honeybees pollinating crops, farmers would grow much less food, including apples, berries, and nuts."

© www.theteachersguide.com