



## Second Nature - *The Importance of Bees*

Today we learned

There are three types of bees that live in a hive: one **queen bee** that lays the eggs, **drone bees** that protect the queen, and **worker bees** that are responsible for collecting nectar.

Bees play an important part in growing food! While collecting nectar, worker bees jump from flower to flower spreading tiny pollen dust particles into those flowers, which will eventually turn into fruit! This process is called **pollination**. The worker bees direct each other to the best nectar by doing a 'waggle dance.'

We also learned that bees recognize their hive by using scents!

Now at home

### Activity 1 - Honey Salad Dressing

Make a *Bee-licious* salad dressing with your child! Start with a base recipe:

- ¼ Cup olive oil
- 1 Tablespoons honey
- 1 Tablespoon of balsamic vinegar
- Pinch of salt and pepper

To this you can add whatever you like! Play around with some ingredients like garlic, mustard, red pepper, or lemon juice! Today were not only environmental scientists, but also food scientists!

### Activity 2 - Bee Scouting

Have a discussion with your child about where they might be able to find some bees! Talk about how bees are attracted to sweet smelling nectar/pollen and bright flowers. With your child, make a list of bee related items you want to scout! Your list can include bees, pollen in a flower, bright flowers, flowers that smell sweet, and bonus points for a hive!

Before you head out, have a quick chat with your child about staying safe around bees! Remind them that bees are amazing, and we don't need to be afraid of them! The best way to stay safe around bees is to stay calm and leave them alone.

Now you're ready to take a walk or head to your backyard to do some bee scouting!

To send us any photos, videos, or questions, email us at [education@sproutup.org](mailto:education@sproutup.org)!

