

Animals that give us food or clothes: bees



Let's read

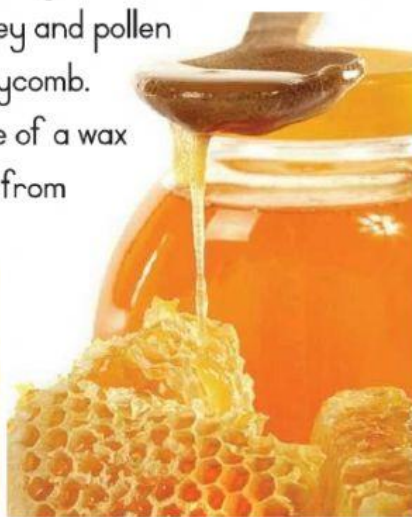


Bees make honey and beeswax and help farmers to produce fruit. Bees live in communities called hives (or nests). Some of the bees go out to collect pollen and nectar from flowers. They take this back to the hive. The pollen is fed to the young bees, and the nectar is turned into honey to feed the adult bees.



The bees keep the honey and pollen in a store called a honeycomb.

The honeycomb is made of a wax that the bees produce from their own bodies.



Bee farmers collect the extra honey which bees will not use as food. Honey is a very healthy food, and we eat it on bread and with porridge.



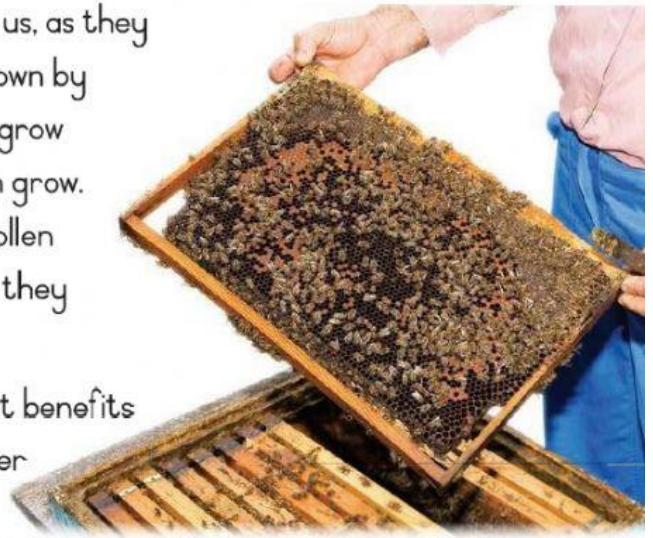
We also use beeswax to make all kinds of products, such as these:

- candles
- furniture polish
- lip balm and cosmetics
- waterproofing for leather
- polish for leather products like shoes
- crayons
- soap

Date: _____

Bees are also very important to us, as they help many of the food plants grown by farmers to make new seeds and grow fruits from which new plants can grow. The bees do this by spreading pollen from one plant to another while they collect pollen and nectar.

About a third of the food we eat benefits from pollination by bees and other insects. But there are fewer bees now than before because of diseases and the use of pesticides. Be careful with bees. When they sting you it is very painful.



Let's write

Are these statements true or false? Mark the correct box with a tick (✓).
Your teacher will give you the answers.

	True	False
Bee stings are not painful.		
Bees throw the pollen away as they fly to their hives.		
Farmers rob bees of the only honey they have.		
Honey-bees have become used to living alongside humans.		
Honey is poisonous when used in hot foods.		
Beeswax can help to shine your leather shoes.		
Beeswax cannot keep water out of leather shoes.		
Honey is bitter.		
The number of bees is increasing.		
Bees use honey as food.		