

Name: _____

Reading Comprehension Text Features

Read the passage below carefully. Answer the questions that follow.

THE LANGUAGE OF BEES

Honey bees are insects that live in **colonies** or groups. They mostly eat **nectar** or pollen from flowers. Bees cannot use words like we do, so they speak to each other by dancing.

Bees communicate through two different dances that tell the other bees the *location* and the *quality* of the food that they found. The first dance is called the **waggle** dance. It is done by the bee wagging its stinger, then turning in a figure eight pattern. This dance tells the other bees that food is far away. The second dance is called the **round** dance. In this dance, the bee moves in a circular pattern. This dance tells the other bees that the food is very near. However, whether the food is nearby or far away, the bees will find it and once it is found, they enjoy a delicious meal together.



So the next time you observe a colony of busy bees, try to identify the type of dance they are doing. Maybe then, you too will be able to understand the language that bees speak.

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Adapted by: The GLAT Team 2015

1. Select three (3) text features found in the passage above.

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2. Use the bold words in the passage to answer the following questions. Type the bold word next to its description.

a. The food that bees eat from flowers

b. A dance that tells that food is far away

c. A dance that tells that food is nearby

d. Another word for group

3. Which word in the passage means the same as talk? _____

4. Is this reading passage fiction or non-fiction? _____

5. Choose another suitable title for this passage.

a. The Food of Bees

b. A Colony of Bees

c. The Dance of Bees