

Vocabulary List

bee dance	egg	nectar
beekeeper	extractor	pollination
beekeeping	fanning	pollen
beeswax	filter	pupa
bee yard	foundation	queen
brood	foraging	reproduction
cell	frame	smoker
centrifugal force	guard bee	super
colony	hive	uncapping knife
cooperation	honeycomb	worker bee
drone	larva	

Additional Resources

For additional activities on farm animals, agricultural plants and nutrition, please visit the Museum's website, at agriculture.technomuses.ca. The Educational Activity Kits can be found in the School Programs section. They are free and available in both official languages. They contain a variety of activities related to science and technology, language, mathematics, social studies, as well as health and physical education.

Bees: A Honey of an Idea is an online exhibition exploring the essential role bees play in the pollination of many Canadian food crops. Visit agriculture.technomuses.ca/english/bees/default.php.



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Fun Facts

- A single honeybee makes 0.8 g (1/10 tsp) of honey in its lifetime.
- Bees contribute not only to the increased production of fruits and vegetables (crop pollination), but also to their size.
- A honeybee flies at a maximum speed of 24 km/h and its wings beat 200 times per second, or 12,000 times per minute.
- The colour and taste of honey varies, depending on the flowers (the source of nectar) visited by the bees.
- The average lifespan of a honeybee during the working season is about six weeks.
- In the summer, a colony of honeybees contains 50,000 to 80,000 bees.
- The average Canadian consumes 1 kg of honey a year.
- Bees have four wings.
- As native pollinators continue to disappear, the production of many everyday foods depends more and more on honeybees.
- Honeybees must visit about 4 million flowers to produce 1 kg of honey.
- The individual cells of a honeycomb have six sides.
- Bees have been producing honey from flowers for about 10 to 20 million years.
- The bulging eyes of the drones help them to spot the queen.
- In Canada, the value of fruits, vegetables, and legumes from plants pollinated by bees is more than ten times the value of honey production.
- There are nearly 11,000 beekeepers in Canada.
- Each time a honeybee leaves the hive to seek food, it visits 50 to 100 flowers.
- Mead is the name for wine produced from fermented honey.
- A single colony of honeybees is enough to pollinate an entire acre of fruit trees.
- Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba are the Canadian provinces that produce the most honey.
- There are no African honeybees in Canada.
- Honeybees are responsible for the pollination of a third of Canada's food-producing crops.