Read the short story and answer each question.



The Life of a Honeybee

Honeybees live in large groups called colonies. Each colony has thousands of bees, and every bee has a special job. The queen bee lays eggs. Worker bees take care of the hive and gather nectar from flowers. Male bees, called drones, help the queen with her job.

Worker bees are the busiest. They fly from flower to flower collecting nectar and pollen. Back at the hive, they turn the nectar into honey. Honey is the bees' food, especially during the winter when flowers aren't blooming.

Bees are important for people too. As they collect nectar, they spread pollen from one flower to another. This helps plants grow fruits and vegetables. Without bees, many plants wouldn't grow well.

So the next time you see a buzzing bee, remember—it might be helping more than just its hive!

## Name:

# The Life of a Honeybee

- 1. Why do bees collect nectar from flowers?
- A. They use it to make honey for food.
- B. They use it to build their hive.
- C. They use it to clean their wings.
- D. They use it to find other bees.

- 2. How do bees help people?
- A. By spreading pollen to help plants grow.
- B. By keeping birds away from farms.
- C. By eating harmful insects.
- D. By cutting grass around gardens.

3. Fill in the blank:
Male bees are called, and their job is to help the queen.
4. What are some of the different jobs bees have in a colony?
5. Use details from the text to explain how bees make honey and why it's important.
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### **Parent and Teacher Guide**

Guide Reading Level: M Lexile Level: 425L-575L

Grade Level: 3rd Grade, Beginning of the Year

**Genre**: Informational / Science

#### Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read an informational text about honeybees and how they live and work. As we read, we'll practice asking and answering questions using evidence from the text to support our thinking."

Vocabulary: colony, queen, worker, drone, nectar

#### **Before Reading Discussion Questions**

- 1. What do you already know about bees and what they do?
- 2. Why might people study bees and how they live?
- 3. What do you think you'll learn from this passage?

#### **During Reading Discussion Questions**

- 1. What is the job of a worker bee?
- 2. How do bees turn nectar into something useful?
- 3. What happens when bees spread pollen?

#### After Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. Why are bees important to both their hive and the world?
- What evidence from the text helps you understand the roles inside a bee colony?
- 3. What new questions do you have about bees after reading this passage?

#### **Activity Idea**

Have students create a labeled diagram of a beehive, showing the queen, drones, workers, and honeycomb. Then they can write 2–3 facts next to each part based on what they learned in the text, using direct evidence and vocabulary words.

