

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Details & Examples

Read the short story and answer each question.



How Bees Build a Home

Bees are more than honey-makers—they are expert builders. Inside a hive, every bee has a job, and every shape has a purpose.

Most wild beehives are found in tree hollows, on cliffs, or under thick branches. Worker bees start by gathering wax from their own bodies. They chew the wax and use it to build hexagon-shaped cells—six-sided chambers that fit tightly together.

These honeycomb cells are used for many things. Some store honey, others hold pollen, and many serve as baby bee nurseries. Every single cell is the exact same size. This helps bees save space and wax, and it makes the hive strong and sturdy.

While some bees build, others guard the entrance. Still others fly out to collect nectar and pollen. Each part of the hive depends on the others, and no bee works alone.

Over time, the hive grows into a thick, golden city full of buzzing teamwork. And when it's time for new bees to hatch, they push out of the wax and start helping right away.



Name: _____

How Bees Build a Home

1. What shape do bees use to build their hive cells?

- A. Triangle
- B. Circle
- C. Hexagon
- D. Rectangle

2. What do the bees do with the wax they gather from their bodies?

- A. They store it in the honey
- B. They use it to build cells in the hive
- C. They feed it to baby bees
- D. They use it to attract other bees

3. Fill in the blank:

Each bee in the hive has a special _____, such as building, guarding, or collecting food.

4. What are two ways the text explains how a hive is carefully built? Use examples from the passage.

5. What can you infer about what might happen if some bees stopped doing their jobs?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: Q

Lexile Level: 735L-885L

Grade Level: 4th Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Informational Nonfiction

Introducing the Text

“Today we’re going to read about bees—not just how they make honey, but how they build their homes and work together. As we read, pay attention to details that tell us what each bee does and how the hive is structured. We’ll also think about what might happen if one part of the hive didn’t work the way it should.”

Vocabulary: ecosystem, dung, sprout, tracks, seed spreader

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you already know about how bees live or work together?
 2. Have you ever seen a beehive in a tree or in a picture?
 3. What kinds of jobs might bees have inside the hive?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What are the honeycomb cells used for?
 2. Why do all the cells have the same shape and size?
 3. What do the bees do when they are not building?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. What makes a hive strong and well-organized?
 2. How do all the bees rely on each other?
 3. What might a picture of a hive show without any words?
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Activity Idea

Give students paper and pencil or digital tools to draw a labeled diagram *based only on the text description*. Afterward, show the wordless illustration and compare it to their mental image. Discuss which textual details helped them imagine it clearly and which parts required inference.

