



Pre-K Lesson: Bees and Flowers

Description: Children will hear about honeybees and will create something that will help them.

Theme: Pollinators

Materials Needed:

- [The Honeybee](#), by Kristen Hall (click for link to YouTube video)
- Seed Ball Materials
 - Clay or scrap paper/newspaper*
 - Wildflower seeds
 - Soil
 - Water

Lesson:

Get them thinking

- Today we're going to talk about some special insects - bees and butterflies. Ask - do you know the special job is that bees and butterflies do? They are pollinators!
- Pollinators bring pollen to different plants so that they can make seeds. Ask - Why do plants need seeds? Why are seeds and plants important to us?
- Discuss what you ate for lunch today. Think about how some part of what you ate came from [plants that needed to be pollinated](#) (ex. Spaghetti and salad - tomatoes, lettuce, cucumbers, and carrots all need bees to pollinate them)
- We're going to read a book to learn more about bees and then we will make something that will help them!

Research - Time to Read!

- Read [The Honeybee](#), by Kristen Hall
- Ask - what did you learn about honeybees from this story? Where do honeybees live? Where do they find food? How do they tell each other where flowers are?

- Ask - Do you think honeybees would like to live in our neighborhood? Why or why not? What do you think we can do to help honeybees?

Let's Help the Bees! - Making Seed Ball

- We are going to help bees by making seed balls! We learned all about how much bees need flowers. To help them out, we're going to make seed balls.
- Take a small piece of clay (about the size of a quarter) and begin rolling it in your hands.
- Once the clay is warmed up, add a small amount of soil. If the clay and soil mixture seems too dry, add some water.
- Next add the seeds! A small pinch of seeds is plenty. Roll this around until the clay, dirt and seeds are mixed. Repeat process to make as many seed balls as desired.

*If using scrap paper or newspaper instead of clay, follow steps here (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3tbZguBzG8&feature=youtu.be>) to make seed balls

Plant your Seeds

- Go outside and decide with your child where you should put your seed ball
- To plant your seed ball, all you have to do is toss it somewhere with good lighting and not too many other plants.
- If you have extra seed balls, put them in a paper bag and share them with friends.
- If you use native local wildflower seeds, your plants won't need much care after planting because they are adapted to growing wild in your area.

Reflection

- Ask - what did you learn about honeybees today? What is a pollinator? Why are they important? How will the seed balls help bees?
- Have your child draw a picture describing what they can do to help bees. They can give this out to family and friends to encourage others to help bees too.

Extensions

- [Find out about what Salisbury is doing to help bees.](#)
- Write a letter or draw a picture to send to the mayor to tell him how important it is to save bees.
- [Learn more about seed balls](#) and create a movement to help pollinators - Give seed balls away, drop them in vacant lots and empty fields, anywhere the flowers can grow!