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The Bee Question

Why do bees buzz?

In this episode we discover that Australia has many different types of bees, including native bees and honey bees. Bees collect nectar and pollen from flowers, which sticks to their bodies and can get heavy. As they fly, bees beat their wings around 230 times per second to help them carry heavy pollen. This makes the air vibrate noisily and that's why bees buzz.

Wonder some more ...

1. What other insects make buzzing sounds?
2. Where do bees live?
3. What different jobs do bees have in a hive?
4. What do bees collect from flowers and trees?
5. Why are bees important pollinators?
6. What sweet food do bees make?



Time to explore...

- **BUILD A BEE HOTEL:** Use hammers, nails, balsa wood and bamboo stalks to help children design and safely construct a home for native bees. Research suitable [Bee Hotel](#) designs and specific housing requirements for different species. Scaffold learning about the interdependence between plants and animals by choosing an ideal position in the garden.
- **CREATE A BEE FRIENDLY CRAFT GARDEN:** Develop understandings about pollination through small world play using paper bee finger puppets, tissue paper flowers with 'pollen' pom-poms, and hexagonal corrugated cardboard 'honeycomb' in a beehive shaped box.



Read and wonder...

- *The Book of Bees* (2016) by Piotr Socha & Wojciech Grajkowski
- *The Very Clever Bee* (2021) by Felicity Marshall
- *Bee & Me* (2016) by Alison Jay
- *Nifty Native Bees* (2014) by Steve Parish
- *Bee: Nature's Tiny Miracle* (2021) by Patricia Hegarty & Britta Teckentrup

Link to EYLF Learning Outcomes including 2.4, 4.2, 5.3 and 5.5.

