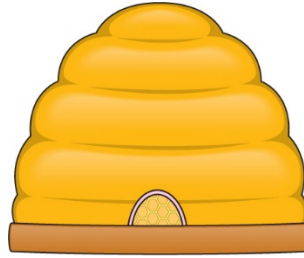


Pollination in Action: How Do Bees Help?



This activity is a great one for students who need to move around the room. It is also a good one to help younger students with their fine motor control, as they will be coloring, cutting, and gluing their bees. The only disadvantage is that it gets a bit messy. Oh well, whoever said learning was supposed to be clean!!??

Things you'll need:

- A muffin tin – the teacher will place the “flowers” in these muffin tins for the bees to visit to pick up their pollen.
- Flower cut outs – the teacher should cut these out before hand to place in the muffin tins.
- Bee Cutout – this should be printed on thick paper. The students will then color it and cut it out.
- Popsicle Sticks – the students glue their bees to this stick so they can help them fly.
- Double Stick Tape or Velcro – this should be put on the popsicle stick after the glue has dried. This will allow the “bees” to pick up their pollen on the way to and from flowers.
- Coffee grounds or glitter or sugar – this will be the pollen for the bees to pick up. I would recommend something that is easily seen, so the darker, the better!

Directions:

1. Discuss plants and their parts with the students. Talk about how pollination works and what must happen for plants and flowers to grow.
2. Discuss how bees and other animals (butterflies, birds, and bats) help with pollination.
3. Provide the students with the bees, popsicle stick and Velcro strips. Allow them time to assemble their bee.
4. Once the bees are prepared, allow the students to leave the “hive” to gather pollen in the different locations throughout the room.
5. After each student has had a chance to “fly” their bee around the room, take them in one line around to the different locations to see how much pollen has fallen off and spread.
6. Discuss how when the pollens from different flowers mix together, this causes the plants to become pollinated.