

Growing a Reader

Storytime to GO

Theme: Bees

READ ALOUD TIPS

FROM MISS RENEE

- Make reading fun - this shouldn't be a chore for you or your child
- Preview the book. Reading it to yourself lets you know what your in for and helps with reading aloud
- Read in manner you're comfortable with but make sure you read with expression. If you're not comfortable doing voices don't, but don't read as if the book is boring.
- It's okay to ask questions, talk about things or explore the pictures with your child while you're reading
- Just because your child isn't sitting with you or gets up to play doesn't mean they aren't listening, so keep reading. Of course if they've left the room or are being really loud while playing then you can stop.

READ ALOUD TIPS

FROM MISS RENEE

Participate in the activities with your child. Just because you're a grownup doesn't mean you can be silly and have fun!

Booklist

Bee Dance by Rick Chrustowski

Please Please the Bees by Gerald Kelley

Magic School Bus Inside a Beehive by Joanna Cole

Bees by Karen Kenney

Exploration Activity

Pollination Game

Materials: paper cups, flower shapes with hole in center, pipe cleaners, glitter

Fill small paper cups with different colors of glitter, cut out flower shapes add a small hole (bigger than pipe cleaner diameter) with a hole punch to center of each flower. Glue flowers to the top of the paper cups. Give each kid a pipe cleaner. How do bees pollinate? Have the kids pretend to be bees, the pipe cleaners are their bee legs/bodies. Spread the flower cups around the yard (can do inside if you don't mind a little glitter). Have kids fly to a cup and land (insert their pipe cleaner into the cup and pull out. Observe the glitter attached to the pipe cleaner. Then visit another flower and repeat. Observe how the glitter mixes in the flower and on the pipe cleaner. This is how pollen is moved from flower to flower.

Craft

Bee Finger Puppet

Materials: 1" strip yellow paper, 2" yellow oval, 2" black circle, 2 white 1" circles, 1/2 black pipe cleaner, tape/glue

How to:

1. Form the yellow paper strip into a loop
2. Assemble the rest of the pieces into a bee shape
3. Attach the loop to the back of the bee.



More Activities to Do At Home

- **Bumblebee Cookies** - Materials: oreo cookies, yellow icing, white chocolate melting wafers, candy eyes. Using the oreo as a base apply yellow icing in stripes and add the candy eyes. Insert the wafers into the sides of the oreo.
- **Fruit Kebab Flowers** - Materials: apples, bananas, grapes, melon, skewers, knife, cookie cutters Cut fruit into shapes and add to skewer to look like flowers
- **Fuzzy Bee magnet** - Materials: scoop sticks, glittery yellow and black pompoms(2 each), glue, googly eyes, black pipe cleaner, wax paper cut into wing shapes, magnet. Fold pipe cleaner in half and glue to stick, glue wax paper wings to stick, attach pompoms onto stick and over pipe cleaner and wings. Attach eyes.
- **Create a flower discovery table** with paper flowers in a variety of colors and shapes, attach felt circles to the flowers and use essential oils to scent flowers. Have kids sort by shape, color or smell
- **Finding Flowers** - Materials: paper flowers, essential oils (floral and tree), music: flight of the bumblebee. Scent the paper flowers with the essential oil, one scent per flower, make sure you have multiple flowers of each scent. Explain that for bees to make honey they need nectar from flowers and at the same time they pollinate the flowers. Bees travel far and wide to find flowers. Have the kids pretend to be bees and fly while the music is playing. Have them find a flower when the music stops. Ask what does your flower smell like? How did it feel while you were flying? What color is the flower you stopped at? Play again (Variation: bees are endangered because they're losing flowers - play again but each time remove more and more flowers (either of one color, one scent or a combination)).
- **Bee Observation Walk** - search for a beehive, look for bees working in your yard or neighborhood, maybe even watch a bee inside a flower. Remember as long as you don't bother them, bees won't bother you!
- **Build a bee house** <https://www.pragmaticmom.com/2017/07/diy-bee-house-stem-project/>
- **Plant a pollinator garden**



To Learn More

- San Diego Kids: Bee <https://kids.sandiegozoo.org/animals/bee>
- National Geographic Kids: 10 facts about honeybees <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/animals/insects/honey-bees/>
- National Geographic Kids: Bees <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/invertebrates/insects/honeybee/>
- Kids and Bees <https://www.beegirl.org/kidsandbees>
- Bumblebee Conservation Trust <https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/bumble-kids/>

