

BEE FOUNTAINS LESSON



SUMMARY/BIG IDEA:

Like all living things, honey bees need water to live, but they have some unique requirements for taking in water.

MATERIALS & RESOURCES:

- Shallow dishes
- Stones
- [Glass marbles](#)
- [Planter trays](#)
- OR open ended for STEAM approach to providing water for honey bees

STEPS:

PART ONE:

1. Review/discuss fact that all living things need water to survive.
 - Honey bees cannot swim. They will drown in standing water, ponds, etc.
 - Honey bees cannot fly if their wings get wet.
2. Brainstorm ways to provide water for the honey bees.
3. Have students plan and construct bee fountains. Challenge: self-filling fountains. OR
4. Students choose shallow dishes, fill with beads or stones.
5. Choose appropriate locations around your school campus to place the fountains. Fill water to just below top of the beads or stones.
6. Have students monitor the fountains for water level. Rain can overflow the containers. Water evaporates quickly from the shallow dishes.



ASSESSMENT/REFLECTION:

Have students take action by placing bee fountains at home. Share their experiences with classmates. If done as a STEM activity, does the fountain function as planned.

Have students fold a sheet of white paper into four equal parts. Then have the students label each square with the labels FOOD, WATER, AIR, and SHELTER. Allow students to draw how the honey bee gets each of her needs met in the correct square.



Bee Journal Entry - All living things need food, water, air, and shelter to survive. How are these four things changing and threatening the current bee population? What can you do to help?

BEE FOUNTAINS LESSON STANDARDS

NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE

3-5-ETS1-1

ELA COMMON CORE

W.3.7; W.4.7; W.5.7