

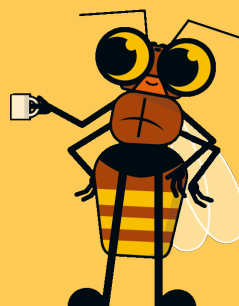
# STEMVILLE

## THE BEE CONNECTION TEACHING PACK

Ideas for Teachers & Librarians  
Suitable for Ages 6+

### Explores:

-  Bee Facts!
-  Types of Bees
-  Life Cycle of a Bee
-  Beekeeping
-  Conservation



### About the Book:

Mason B. Chandler is a detective and solitary bee on a mission, and she needs your help to solve a mystery in Bug Borough. As Mason follows clues through Bug Borough, you'll discover everything there is to know about bees! Learn all about the different types of bees, their homes, how they communicate and what you can do to help look after them.

### About the Author:

Ben is a freelance illustrator and runs workshops and lectures on illustration at various universities and conferences in the UK and Europe. He co-created the *Professor Astro Cat* children's books with his long-time friend and scientist, Dr Dominic Walliman, which have been translated into over 24 other languages.

He lives, eats, walks around and sleeps in Hastings, UK with his two sons.



# Prompts for Discussion

## Pages 1–17:

1. What are some 'handy clues' for how to identify an insect? (page 10)
2. How many known species of bees are there? (page 12)
3. Who is Mason B. Chandler? What do you know about her?
4. A bee's body is divided into three main parts, what are they? (page 13)
5. What are the 'three main types' of solitary bees? (pages 16–17)

## Pages 18–31:

1. What is the process of pollination? Why is it important? (pages 18–19)
2. How is Bumble similar to Mason? How is Bumble different?
3. What are the differences between the Worker and Drone Honeybees? (pages 24–25)
4. Why is the Queen Honeybee so important? (pages 26–27)
5. What are some of the jobs that the bees perform in the hive?

## Pages 32–45:

1. Why is the 'hexagonal pattern' a perfect structure for the hive? (page 32)
2. What is the job of a beekeeper? (pages 34–38)
3. What are some of the ways that we use honey? (page 38)
4. Can you list three reasons why we need bees? (page 39)
5. Why are bees disappearing? How can we help?



# Create a BUZZ with these five BEE-themed activities!

## 1. Un-bee-lievable Bee Facts: Gather a hive-full of knowledge

Find your favourite facts from *The Bee Connection* and write them on the 'Un-bee-lievable Bee Facts' worksheet. For example: One bee can pollinate around 5,000 flowers a day (page 18)! Then, use them to create an 'Un-bee-lievable Quiz' to test your friends and family on their bee knowledge!

### Example Quiz-Question Format:

Use the examples below to format your quiz questions! You can make them as easy or difficult as you like, with example 1 being the most difficult, and example 3 being the least.

1. Approximately how many flowers can one bee pollinate in a day?
2. How many flowers can one bee pollinate in a day?  
a. 500 b. 5,000 c. 5,000,000
3. One bee can pollinate around 5,000 flowers a day. True or False?

## 2. Bee Gallery: Create a gallery of bees!

In *The Bee Connection*, we meet lots of different types of bees! Fill in the picture frames on the Bee Gallery worksheet with illustrations of the different bees that you meet. Include any facts that you learned about them; how are they all unique?

**Extra Task:** Write a diary entry in the role of Mason B. Chandler. What mystery is she trying to solve? Who does she meet during her adventure in Bug Borough? What does she learn? Include Mason's feelings, as well as her worries and her triumphs throughout the story.

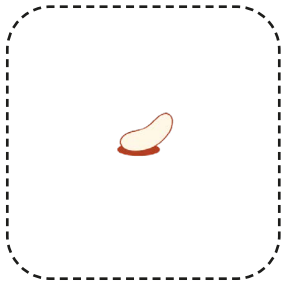


## Create a BUZZ with these five BEE-themed activities!

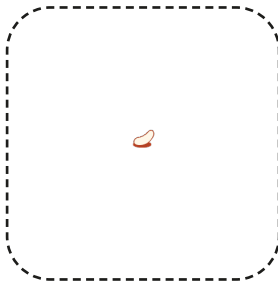
3. The lifecycle of a honeybee: Record how a bee goes from an egg to an adult!

Look at page 29! Use it to complete the life cycle of a honeybee by placing the four options below in the correct order. Include illustrations and try to describe each stage of the cycle to a friend or classmate!

Larva



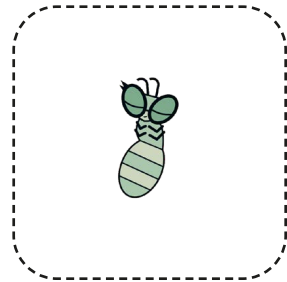
Egg



Bee



Pupa



First, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Next, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Then, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Last, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Extra Task: Draw and label a honeybee with its correct features:

LEGS; WINGS; ANTENNAE; THORAX; ABDOMEN,  
COMPOUND EYE; POLLEN BASKET; STINGER.

Can you go one step further and guess what each feature helps the bee to do? For example, the bee's wings help it to fly to different flowers; the bee's legs help it to land on slick or slippery surfaces!



**THE BEE  
CONNECTION**

**BEN NEWMAN**

**FLYING EYE BOOKS**

## Create a BUZZ with these five BEE-themed activities!

### 4. BEEKEEPER REQUIRED! Write a job advert for a beekeeper!

Look at pages 34–38. What is the job of a beekeeper? What skills do you need to be a good beekeeper? Use your ideas to write a job advert for a beekeeper. When you've finished, have a go at answering the advert with an application. You could even carry out beekeeper interviews with your classmates!

### Beekeeper Required!

Job description:

Daily Duties:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Skills required:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Protective gear required:

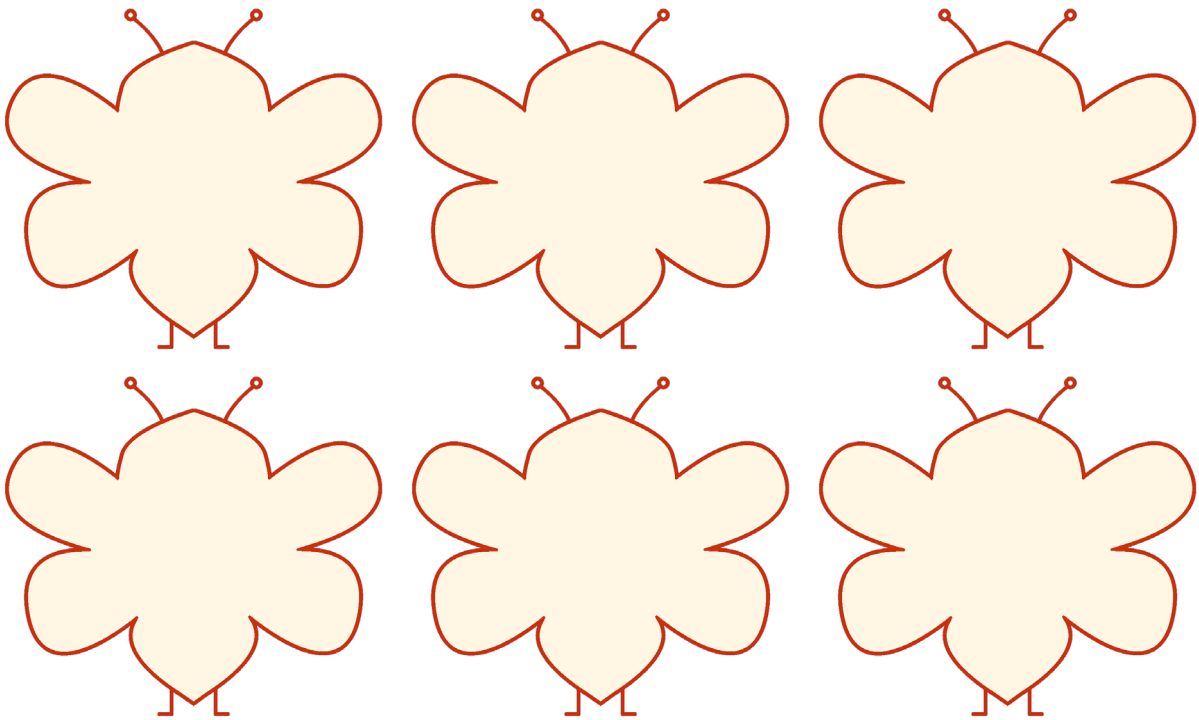


# Create a BUZZ with these five BEE-themed activities!

## 5. THE IMPORTANCE OF BEES!

List the reasons we need to protect them

On pages 38–39 we learn that bees are vital to the planet’s survival. Why? In each of the bee templates below, write down one reason the bees are so important to us. Then, cut out your bees and hang them in your classroom or library to create a beautiful display and remind your school why we need to protect the bees.



**Extra Task:** Write a poem or create a collage to celebrate the bees – because a world without them wouldn’t be anywhere near as beautiful!





# Un-bee-lievable Bee Facts Worksheet

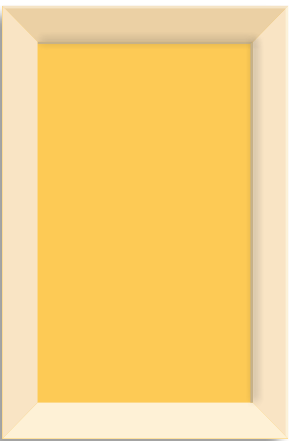
Fill in your own bee facts!



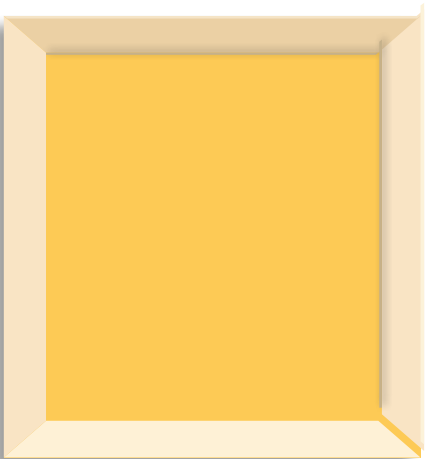
**Example:**  
One bee can pollinate around 5,000 flowers a day!



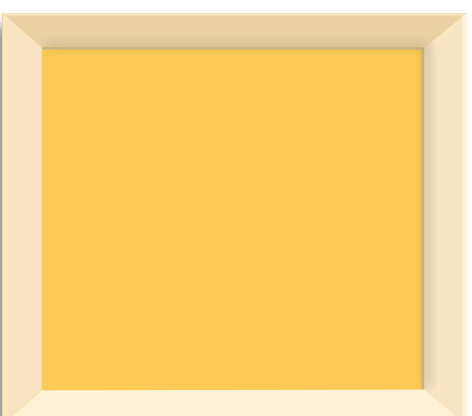
# Bee Gallery Worksheet



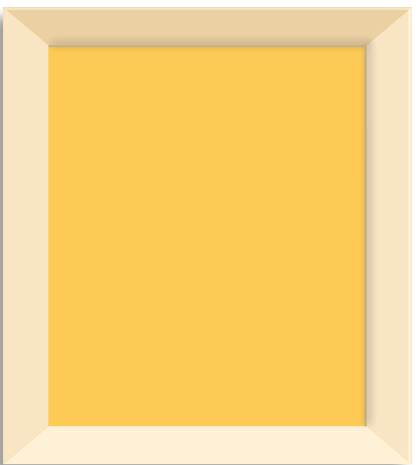
Worker honeybee



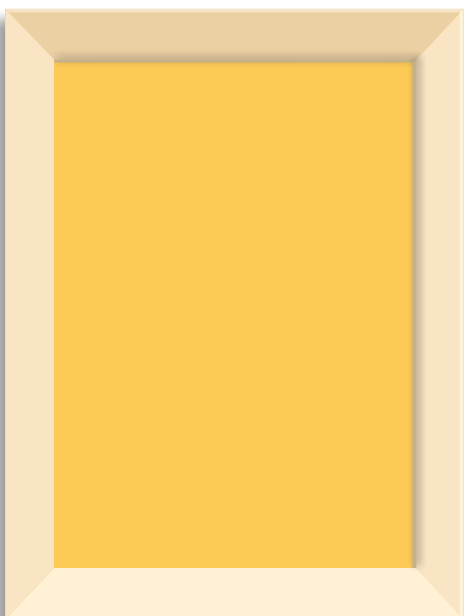
Mason bee



Bumblebee



Drone honeybee



Queen honeybee







We hope you enjoyed reading *STEMville: The Bee Connection* and had fun learning all about bees and why they are so important!

If you liked the book then you might also enjoy the *Professor Astro Cat* series, also illustrated by Ben Newman and written by Dr Dominic Walliman.

For Teachers: You can find more lesson plans and activity sheets on our website <https://flyingeyebooks.com/schools-resources/> and keep up to date with our latest releases by following us on social media @flyingeyebooks



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