

BEE Protective...for kids!

Birds, Bees and Other Beneficial Organisms

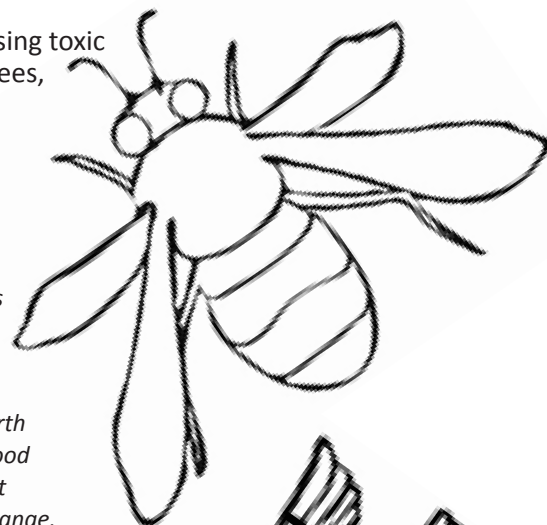
Pollinators are very important to our ecosystem. They pollinate plants by going from flower to flower transferring pollen. Without pollinators, we would not be able to enjoy many delicious foods like apples, almonds, cherries, blueberries, pumpkins, and many others. Many types of pollinators, like honey bees, bumble bees, and butterflies are declining due to loss of habitat, widespread use of toxic pesticides, parasites, and disease.

You can do your part to help these important beneficial creatures by (1) not using toxic pesticides, (2) planting pollinator habitat, like colorful flowers, gardens, and trees, and (3) telling your friends and family all about the importance of pollinators.

Know your Pollinators

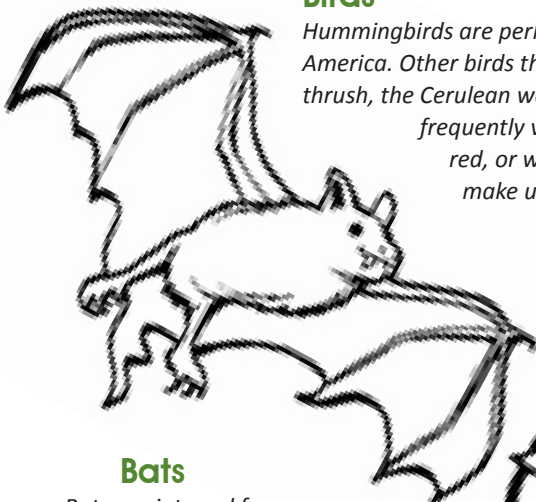
Bees

There are a wide variety of different bees, over 4,000 species native to North America alone. From honeybees and bumblebees to carpenter bees, these pollinators prefer flowers that are white, yellow, or blue with a fresh, mild or pleasant scent, and large landing pads for petals.



Birds

Hummingbirds are perhaps the most common bird pollinator in North America. Other birds that provide pollinator services include the wood thrush, the Cerulean warbler, and the Eastern Cuckoo. Flowers most frequently visited by birds tend to be brightly colored orange, red, or white flowers, and have tubular shapes so they can make use of their long beaks to drink nectar.



Bats

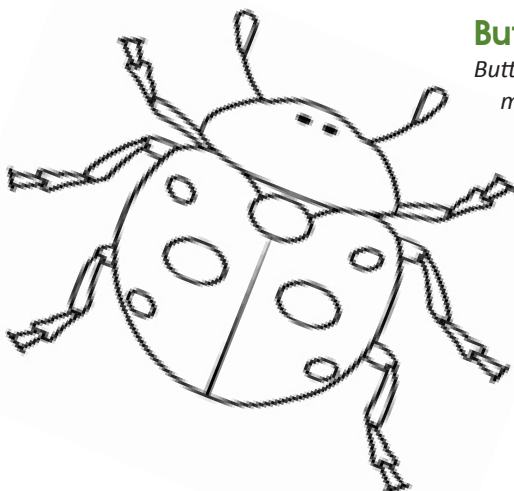
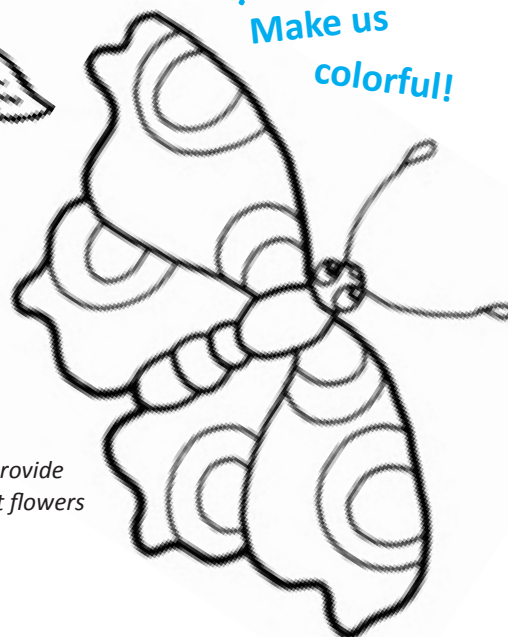
Bats are integral for night blooming flowers and crops: some of the most important crops include avocados and guava. They are attracted to white or purple flowers.



Bzzz! Make us colorful!

Butterflies & Moths

Butterflies seek nectar during the day time, while moths are their nocturnal counterparts. Both are attracted to bright red and purple flowers, but while butterflies prefer fresh scented flower, moths prefer strongly scented ones.



Beetles and Other Insects

Over 40% of all insects are beetles, and many provide important pollination services. They tend to visit flowers with wide, shallow, and bowl-like shapes.

What is a Pesticide?

Pesticides are chemicals that kill weeds, insects, fungi, rodents, and bacteria. Many pesticides are harmful to pollinators and can kill them even when we don't want them to.

Lets keep pesticides away from pollinators!



Did You Know?



Every 3rd mouthful of food is produced by bees pollinating crops. Flowering plants rely on bees for pollination so that they can produce fruit and seeds. Without bees pollinating these plants, there would not be very many fruits or vegetables to eat!

Circle the fruits below that are dependent on pollinators:

Circle all of the pollinators that you can find below!

S N B F S B Y H W Y R F
 S D X E I T S Y E L F Q
 B M R R E X A E T F M F
 D E D I A T B B M R L Z
 X S M J B E L S A E I J
 B U F Q L G D E C T Z A
 F M C B B I N Y S T A R
 T I M X X V V I I U R H
 Z U S H T O M S M B D X
 B H O N E Y B E E M S C
 M Y M Y J B W V W J U R
 E U F Q E M J X O W V H

Hints:

BATS BUMBLEBEE HUMMINGBIRDS
 BEETLES BUTTERFLY LIZARDS
 BIRDS HONEYBEE MOTHS



Hint: All of these fruits are dependent on pollinators!

Five Bizzzzare Facts About Bees:

1. Honey bees have different jobs depending on their age.
2. That buzzing sound that honey bees make is from the beating of their wings, which beat up to 200 times per second or 12,000 beats per minute.
3. The honey queen bee is the only member of the colony that produces bee eggs, laying up to 1,500 eggs every day of her life.
4. On an active day, some worker honey bees can make 2,000 flower visits, just one reason gardeners and farmers should avoid use of pesticides.
5. A honey bee can fly 24 km in an hour at a speed of 15 mph, and foragers from a single honey bee colony will fly 55,000 miles, the equivalent of three orbits around the Earth to make just one pound of honey.

Learn more at
www.BEEprotective.org



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