LESSON PLAN

EYFS

Topic: Pollination

Lesson Focus and Goals:

- For children to learn facts about bees and why they are important to our Eco System
- Spatial awareness
- To use a range of adjectives verbally within play
- To share feelings and ideas
- To feel a sense of belonging and community
- Hand eye co-ordination when using hammers
- To understand the importance of helping our bees
- To create bees crafts of their choice

Materials Needed:

- Dandelions
- Material squares
- Pine cones
- Baking paper wings.
- Bubble wrap
- Cheesy puffs
- Precut flowers and bees
- Hammers
- Black marker pens
- Yellow thread
- Hexagonal shaped paper
- Yellow paint

Lesson Hook:

Introduce the theme by asking the children to join in with the 'Waggle dance'.

- Ask one child to be a lead bee and fly around the area to find flowers. Every time they find a flower they do their waggle dance to alert the rest of the bees to pollen and nectar.
- We all join the lead bee by flapping our arms and pretending to be bees.
- Keep choosing different lead bees.

Structure / Activity:

- A range of bee activities will be set out.
- Making pine cone bees with yellow thread and baking paper wings. Wrap the yellow thread around the cone and glue on the wings.
- Using dandelions, hammers and cloth. Place dandelions under the cloth and hammer until the yellow dye from the flower comes through. Finish by drawing black lines and wings on.
- Have an area where children can explore with hexagon shaped bubble wrap and paint. Children can create their own printed patterns to represent a honey comb.
- Have an area where children can explore the pollination process. Use cheesy puffs and pre cut paper flowers

Where might the children take their learning next:

- Use their imagination to be bees
- Their own bee waggle dance
- Creating wildlife areas within their garden for bees

LESSON PLAN

KS1

Topic: Plant Reproduction & Habitats

Lesson Focus and Goals:

- For children to learn facts about bees and why they are important to our Eco System
- Spatial awareness
- To use a range of adjectives verbally within play
- To share feelings and ideas
- To feel a sense of belonging and community
- To gain an understanding of plant reproduction
- To understand the importance of helping our bees
- To gain an appreciation of pollinator habitat importance

Materials Needed:

- Glue
- Small shells
- Sticks
- Native wildflower seeds
- Water
- Soil
- Clay powder
- Precut flowers and bees
- 5 x Grated chalk powder (different colours) in cups

Lesson Hook:

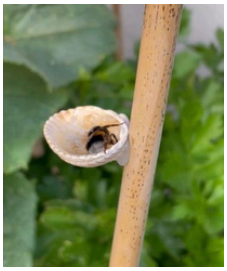
Introduce the theme by performing a "waggle dance'

- Ask the children to copy your actions
- Ask them if they know what dance they are doing
- Break down some of the signals
- Put a large flower/ cut out flower on one side of the room and hold a plush bee or a cut out bee then ask them to give each other waggle directions across the room avoiding obstacles etc

Structure / Activity:

- Explain that bees 'dance' to show their friends to the brightest flowers and the best nectar
- Using 5 cups of grated chalk dust of different colours, give the children a cotton wool ball each and 'fly' the cotton wool ball to each cup, dipping it into the chalk dust and predict then make observations about what might happen and how this relates to flower reproduction and pollination.
- Ask the children to name their favourite foods and explore the ingredients and the direct or indirect link to pollination and insects
- Invite the class to think about why the number of bees might be declining (habitat loss, chemical weedkiller, mowing, climate change - heat etc)
- How to help? Make bee waterers (glue shells onto stick) for gardens and wildflower seedballs - mix clay powder, soil, water and seeds

Make a bee waterer:



Make a seed ball:

LESSON PLAN

KS2

Topic: Plant Reproduction & Habitats

Lesson Focus and Goals:

- For children to learn facts about pollinators and why they are important to our Eco System & food chains
- For children to learn facts about seed dispersal
- To gain an understanding of plant reproduction
- To understand the importance of healthy habitats for pollinators
- To discuss/action recycling household items to create homemade insect homes

Materials Needed:

- Metal trays/dissection plates or boards
- Large lilies
- Scalpels
- Sticks
- Bamboo canes
- 1.5l ridged plastic water bottles
- String
- Plain paper
- Colouring pencils / pens

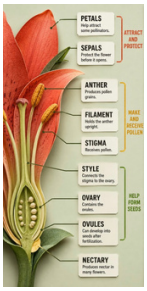
Lesson Hook:

- Ask the class if they know what dissection is
- Tell them they are able to dissect flowers during the lesson

Structure / Activity:

- Discuss importance of flowering plants - fruits and seeds to eat, regrow, provide for other species in food chains, oxygen cycle
- Brainstorm different ways seeds disperse then explain around 70% of flowering plants on Earth need pollination to reproduce
- Dissect lilies and label reproductive parts of plants - pollen from 2 flowers mix to make seeds
- Invite the class to think about why the number of bees might be declining (habitat loss, chemical weedkiller, mowing, climate change - heat etc) and what makes a good habitat. To bring art lesson in - diagonally split large sheet paper with line and draw a perfect bee habitat on one side and then the same habitat destroyed on the other (eg wildflowers : mowed lawns, meadow : diggers) see The Tree & The River by Aaron Becker or The Wild by Yuval Zommer
- How to help? Planting wildflowers at regular intervals as pollinators (esp bees) can't fly far without nectar stops, natural alternatives to weedkillers and insecticides, reducing plastic waste.... Segue into recycling household plastics - water bottle insect homes using bottle with both ends cut off (and recycled) then fill with sticks and canes, then wrap central string and create loop to secure from stick in ground etc. Discuss best locations either at school, home or both

Dissect and label Lily:



Make an insect home: