

Bee Dance

Objective

Students will construct bee puppets and use them to act out some bee behaviors.

Procedures

1. Read and discuss background and vocabulary.
2. Students will make bee puppets, as follows.
 - Draw the outline of a shoe on a sheet of paper. You will need three outlines of the same shoe. One outline will represent the body of a bee, with the toe end serving as the stinger and the heel end serving as the bee's head.
 - Cross the other two outlines, and glue them behind the body to serve as wings. Place the toe ends of the wings toward the heel end of the body.
 - Students will color their puppets to look like bees.
 - Give each student a wooden craft stick to glue to the back of his or her puppet.
3. Divide the class into groups of four or five, and provide one packet of honey to represent nectar for each group.
 - Group member will take turns hiding the packet of honey and use their bee puppets to act out directions so the rest of the group can find it. Remind students of the following:
 - Bees move in the form of a figure eight.
 - Slow dancing means the nectar is far away.
 - Fast dancing means it is closer.
4. Each group will hide its nectar and draw a map showing the other groups how to find it.
5. Students will work in groups to write plays depicting a colony of bees swarming, from the time they decide to divide to the time the new colony finds a new home. Students will use their puppets to act out their plays.
6. Have a water relay to help students understand how much work it takes for a bee to gather enough nectar to make honey.
 - Students will use teaspoons or eye droppers to transfer one cup of water from one container to another one some distance away. Use a stopwatch to keep accurate time. To add suspense to the relay, play a recording of Rimsky-Korsokoff's "Flight of the Bumblebee" as the students race.

Oklahoma Academic Standards

GRADE 1

Creating: 3.2; 4.4

Life Science: 1-1,2

Speaking and Listening:
R.1,2,3,4; W.1,2. Critical
Writing: 1

GRADE 2

Creating: 3.2; 4.4

Life Science: 2-2

Speaking and Listening:
R.1,2,3; W.1,2. Critical
Writing: 1.

GRADE 3

Creating: 3.2; 4.4

Life Science: 2-1. Speaking
and Listening: R.1,2,3,4;
W.1,2. Critical Writing: 1

GRADE 4

Creating: 3.2; 4.4

Life Science: 1-2

Speaking and Listening:
R.1,2,3,4; W.1,2. Critical
Writing: 1

Materials

scissors
construction paper
glue
craft sticks