



ALL ABOUT

BUMBLEBEES

**Buzz, zoom, and explore the fuzzy helpers
of the flower world!**

A NONFICTION UNIT

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MEET THE BUMBLEBEES!

Buzzzzzz! A big, fuzzy bee floats from flower to flower—it's a bumblebee!

Bumblebees are gentle insects known for their round bodies and loud buzz. They are important **pollinators** that help flowers grow and plants make seeds.





WHAT BUMBLEBEES ARE LIKE

Bumblebees are **insects** with six legs, two wings, and three body parts: the head, thorax, and abdomen. Their bodies are covered in thick, fluffy hair. This fuzzy coat helps them stay warm and collect **pollen**.





WHERE BUMBLEBEES LIVE

Bumblebees live in small nests, not big hives. Their nests are often found underground, in old animal **burrows**, under piles of leaves, or in tall grass. Bumblebees live in places where flowers bloom, such as gardens, meadows, farms, and parks. They like cool and warm places and can fly even on chilly days.

FROM EGG TO ADULT

A bumblebee's life begins as an egg laid by the queen bumblebee. The egg hatches into a larva, which is fed by the queen and worker bees. As the larva grows, it becomes a pupa inside a **cocoon**. After some time, an adult bumblebee emerges. New worker bees help care for the nest and gather food.



WHAT BUMBLEBEES EAT

Bumblebees eat **nectar** and **pollen** from flowers. Nectar gives them energy to fly and work. Pollen provides food that helps young bees grow strong. Bumblebees visit many flowers each day, brushing against pollen as they move.



HOW BUMBLEBEES HELP PLANTS

When bumblebees visit flowers, they carry pollen from one flower to another. This is called **pollination**. Pollination helps plants make seeds, fruits, and vegetables. Bumblebees are very good at this job because their fuzzy bodies hold lots of pollen.





INSIDE A BUMBLEBEE NEST

A bumblebee nest is small but busy. The queen lays eggs. Worker bees collect nectar and pollen, feed the young, and protect the nest. Bumblebees do not make honey like honeybees. They make just enough food to feed their growing family.





KEEPING SAFE

Bumblebees are usually calm and gentle. They do not want to **sting**. Bumblebees may sting only if they feel scared or trapped. People can stay safe by watching bees from a distance and not touching their nests. Bumblebees are helpers, not troublemakers.



DID YOU KNOW?

Bumblebees do sleep—but not in beds! When the sun goes down, bumblebees slow their bodies and rest. This is called a sleep-like state. Their bodies relax, and they stop flying and buzzing.

QUESTION TIME!

1. (True or False) Bumblebees are insects.
2. (True or False) Bumblebees live in big hives like honeybees.
3. (True or False) Bumblebees help plants grow.
4. (Fact or Opinion) Bumblebees collect pollen.
5. (Fact or Opinion) Bumblebees are the fluffiest bees.
6. Where do bumblebees make their nests?
7. What do bumblebees eat?
8. Who lays the eggs in a bumblebee nest?
9. How do bumblebees help flowers?
10. Why do bumblebees have fuzzy bodies?



ANSWERS

1. True. Bumblebees are insects.
2. False. Bumblebees live in small nests.
3. True. They help plants grow through pollination.
4. Fact. Bumblebees collect pollen.
5. Opinion. "Fluffiest bees" is a personal idea.
6. They make nests underground or in grassy areas.
7. They eat nectar and pollen.
8. The queen bumblebee lays the eggs.
9. They help flowers by spreading pollen.
10. Their fuzz helps collect pollen and keep them warm.



GLOSSARY

Bumblebee - a fuzzy bee that helps plants grow by moving pollen

Burrow - a small hole or tunnel in the ground where animals can live

Cocoon - a soft covering that protects an insect while it changes

Insect - an animal with six legs and three body parts

Nectar - a sweet liquid made by flowers that insects drink

Pollen - powder from flowers that helps plants make seeds

Pollination - the process of moving pollen from one flower to another

Pollinator - an animal that helps move pollen between flowers

Sting - to hurt with a sharp body part when feeling scared or in danger



FUN WITH BUMBLEBEES

Q: What is small, black and yellow and drops things?

A: A fumble bee.