

## About this activity

Bees journey to flowers collecting nectar, and as they do so, they transfer some of the pollen from one flower to another. This is one of the ways that plants reproduce, and it is called insect pollination. In this activity, you and your class will role-play the process of insect pollination.

## Time

1 hour

## Kit list

- ✓ Card - for sepal, petals, antennae
- ✓ Headbands, real or cardboard – for bees
- ✓ Containers e.g. used plastic bottles or yoghurt pots – to hold the 'pollen'
- ✓ Small circular objects or spheres e.g. ping pong balls, Styrofoam balls, Velcro dots, milk bottle lids or pompoms – for the 'pollen'
- ✓ Woolly hats to hold the pollen – for the stigma
- ✓ Sticky tape or glue stick – to construct outfits

## Watch out!

- ✓ If you help your teacher make the props be careful with scissors.
- ✓ Watch your step when you are moving around during the role play.



# JOURNEYS THROUGH NATURE What do bees do?

## Advance activity for teachers:

You will need to use the kit list to create different outfits for children. On the day you will need to dress students up as flowers (holding a petal, sepal or acting as the stigma), stamen (holding pollen grains) or bees (wearing antennae headbands). Every flower needs a stigma and there should be enough bees to go around.

## Instructions:

- 1 Watch this video clip: [bsa.sc/snap-sci](https://bsa.sc/snap-sci)  
Why do you think the bee visits the flowers and what happens to the pollen?
- 2 Watch this animation to learn about pollination: [bsa.sc/snapsci-pol](https://bsa.sc/snapsci-pol)
- 3 Dress up as either part of a flower (a stamen, a petal or a stigma) or a bee.
- 4 If you are a flower choose a space to stand in the room and stay there. As a flower you should include a stamen, a petal and a stigma.
- 5 The bees can then journey from flower to flower, when they land on a flower they should collect some of pollen grains from the stamens.
- 6 When the bees visit the next flower they should give some of the pollen grains to the stigma. This means that the flower has been pollinated.
- 7 Once you have acted out the role play, you should write a script as a class to describe what's happening.



## Next steps:

- ✓ Visit [collins.co.uk/SnapScience](https://collins.co.uk/SnapScience) for more information and fun activities.