

Basic Bee Facts



A honeybee's body has three sections, a head, the middle section, called a thorax, and an abdomen.

The honeybee has six legs and four wings that come from the thorax and two antennae that come from their forehead.

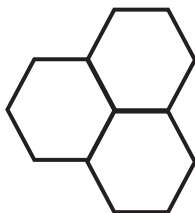
A bee smells, tastes, and feels with its two antennae. It also senses things with the hairs on its body and legs.

A bee has five eyes: two large compound eyes on each side of its head and three smaller eyes on top of its head.

Bees use their long, tubelike tongues like straws (called proboscis) to suck the nectar out of the flowers and they store it in their stomachs and carry it to the beehive to make honey.

A beehive is built with wax produced in special glands in the workers' abdomens.

All worker bees are female. They build the beehive and perform all the jobs necessary for the survival of the hive.



A bee uses its stinger to defend itself. Only worker bees sting people or animals.

Each beehive cell is a six-sided shape called a hexagon.

Newspaper Activity: Look through the newspaper (print or electronic) for stories, pictures or ads about industry, or types of businesses, in your community. How many have ties to agriculture? Do you find any involving bees or honey?