

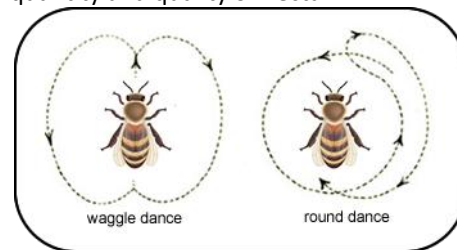
Brookfield Farm Bee Information Sheet

25 Bee Facts

www.brookfield.farm

1. Bees have been around for more than 30 million years
2. Honey contains all of the substances needed to sustain life, including enzymes, water, minerals and vitamins
3. Eating honey can help you get smarter! It is the only food to contain 'pinocembrin' that is an antioxidant that improves brain function
4. One bee will only make 1/12 of a teaspoon of honey in its entire life
5. Many plants rely on insects like bees to be pollinated
6. A third of all the plants we eat have been pollinated by bees
7. A colony of bees can contain between 20,000 and 60,000 bees, but only one queen bee
8. A bee's wings beat 190 times a second, that's 11,400 times a minute!
9. Worker bees, who are all female, are the only ones who will attack you, and only if they feel threatened
10. It has been estimated that it would take 1,100 bee stings to produce enough venom to be fatal
11. Each colony smells different to bees, this is so they can tell where they live!
12. It would take 1,100 bees to make 1kg of honey and they would have to visit 4 million flowers
13. There are 900 cells in a bee's brain – the brain is about the size of a sesame seed
14. The queen bee will lay around 1,500 eggs a day
15. If the queen honey bee is removed from the hive, within 15 minutes, the rest of the colony know about it.
16. Bees have two separate stomachs; one for food and a nectar pouch

17. Honey has natural preservatives so that it won't go bad
18. Bees communicate by smells called 'pheromones' and by performing special 'dances'
19. Honey bees do a dance to show the other bees in the hive where to find a nectar source. A round dance and a waggle dance to show location, quantity and quality of nectar.



20. Bee keepers only take the honey that the bees do not need, but this can be many kilos from one hive
21. There are lots of different types of honey which taste different depending on the flowers used to make it
22. The honey bee scientific name is 'Apis mellifera', which means "honey-carrying bee"
23. Honey bees have 6 legs, 2 compound eyes made up of thousands of tiny lenses (one on each side of the head), 3 simple eyes on the top of the head, 2 pairs of wings, a nectar pouch, and a stomach.
24. Honey bees eat only nectar, pollen and water
25. Bee poem: Excerpt from a poem by Isaac Watts, (parodied by Lewis Carroll in Alice in Wonderland)

How doth the little busy bee
Improve each shining hour,
And gather honey all the day
From every shining flower!
How skilfully she builds her cell!
How neat she spreads the wax!
And labours hard to store it well
With the sweet food she makes.