Other fun books about Bees!

**Horsefly and Honeybee** by Randy Cecil—two spatting friends must find a way to work together in this funny story for preschoolers.

**unBEElievables** by Douglas Florian—A wonderful collection of poems about bees. Some very funny! Preschool and young school-age.

**These Bees Count** by Alison Formento—a class takes a field trip to the bee and honey farm. This is an important book with nice illustrations and great information. Preschool and young school-age.

**What’s it Like to Be a Bee?** by Jinny Johnson—This excellent informational book about bees is the perfect first book for preschoolers. Accurate spare text with clear and simple illustrations.

**Buzz, Bee, Buzz!** by Dana Meachen Rau – The clear photographs and the very simple text make this a perfect first book about bees for any age.

**Can You Tell a Bee from a Wasp?** by Becky Silverman—Just as the title suggests, children will easily distinguish between these two varieties of insects hopefully gaining respect for bees (who pollinate our food!) Young school-age (but the first 12 pages are wonderful for sharing with preschoolers too!)

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**Rhyme of the Month**

**Here is a Hive**

Here is a hive
*(hold up a fist)*

But where are the bees?
*(Look inside the fist)*

Deep inside where nobody sees,
*(hold up the fist)*

Soon they’ll come out of the hive,

1, 2, 3, 4, 5
*(unravel the fist one finger at a time)*

Bzzzzzzzzzzzzz!
*(wave your hands around like a buzzing hive)*

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**Poem of the Month**

**Little Bee**

How doth the little busy bee
Improve each shining hour,
And gather honey all the day
From every shining flower!

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Free STARS trainings are listed at www.piercecountylibrary.org

You may register for STARS classes by clicking on the date of the class on the Calendar of the Pierce County Library website: www.piercecountylibrary.org
Learning Ideas for May:

Learning about Bees

Share a book about bees and engage the children in a conversation finding out what they know and don’t know about Bees.

Read “Can You Tell a Bee From a Wasp” and talk together about the differences between bees and wasps (most stings come from wasps and hornets, not bees!)

On your Nature Table (or Science table) place Bee-related items for the children to explore:
Photos of bees copied from a book or printed from the Internet, hive frames, Bee books, jar of honey (well out of the reach of any infants!), beekeeper hat, beeswax, honeycomb, and a magnifying glass.

Place a jar of orange water tied to a silk flower, and a plastic insert from an egg holder on two ends of a table. Give the children an eyedropper. Encourage the children to gather nectar from the flower (orange water) and take it to the hive (egg tray)
(You may also do this activity outdoors using a larger jar, a turkey baster and a bucket.)
After this activity, talk with the children about how they gathered nectar and how it is similar to what bees do.

Go outside and observe bees on dandelion flowers or local flowering bushes. Talk together about what you all observe.

Bee Art

Cut out, or let the children cut out Bee bodies, legs, wings, and antenna. Talk together with the children about the parts of the bee body. Glue the bees to sticks to create stick puppets or hang the bees in the window to celebrate bee season.

Foods that Bees Pollinate

Talk with the children about the fact that bees play a very important role in pollinating flowers that grow into our food. Perhaps bring in samples of some of these foods for your Science table.

You can find a myriad of early learning information at our website:
http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/
(in the parents/caregivers section of the Kids/Teens menu)