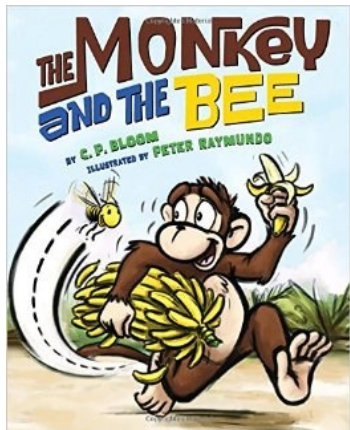
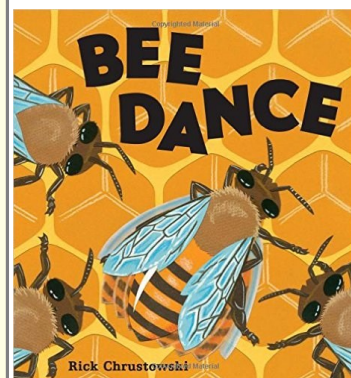


Books of the Month



The Monkey and the Bee by CP Bloom—When Monkey refuses to share his bananas with Bee, the consequences are a riot! With minimal words, a wonderful story, and hysterical illustrations, this book holds appeal for ages 2 to 102.

Bee Dance by Rick Chrustowski
Bee communication is covered perfectly and simply in this vibrantly illustrated picture book. Not only is there accurate information about the life of bees, but it is presented in an accessible way. An excellent introduction to the fascinating world of these important creatures. Preschool.



Other fun books about Bees!

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

unBEElievable 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!)

Rhyme of the Month

Here is a Hive

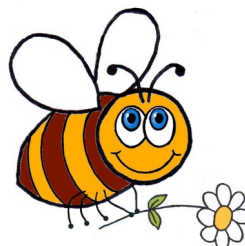
Here is a hive
(hold up a fist)
But where are the bees?
(Look inside the fist)
Deep inside where nobody sees.
(hold up the fist)
Soon they'll come out of the hive.
1, 2, 3, 4, 5
(unravel the fist one finger at a time)
BZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ!
(wave your hands around like a buzzing hive)

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!

Isaac Watts



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.



Alfalfa
Apple
Almond
Artichoke
Asparagus
Blackberry
Blueberry
Broccoli
Brussels sprouts

Some crops pollinated by bees³

Cabbage
Cacao
Cantaloupe
Carrot
Cashew
Cauliflower
Celery
Cherry
Citrus
Dill
Eggplant/
Aubergine
Fennel
Garlic

Kale
Kola nut
Leek
Lychee
Macadamia
Mango
Mustard
Nutmeg
Onion
Passion fruit
Peach
Pear
Plum
Pumpkin

Raspberry
Sapote
Squash
Sunflower
Tangerine
Tea
Watermelon



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)