### What’s The Buzz?

#### Design a honeybee garden- Post activity

**Big Ideas**
50 minutes

- Humans need to protect plants and their habitats.
- Plants play an important role in animal habitats.
- An introduction to the idea of ecological conservation.

**Specific Expectations**

1. Describes the reliance that humans have on plants and animals.
2. Explores the importance of protecting plants along with their habitats in order to preserve honeybee habitats.
3. Describe the basic needs of animals including air, water, food and shelter.

### Description

Using the downloaded and printed pages provided the students would design their own honeybee garden. They will then answer the following question, “It is important to protect honeybee habitats because…” and paste it to the bottom of their garden photo.

### Materials

- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers and colored pencil crayons
- Printed copies of the word document
**Introduction**

1. Discuss with the students how plants are the primary source of food for many living things such as insects, bees and humans.
2. Explain the interaction between honeybees and the plants that they rely on to collect pollen and nectar. This is a good time to ask the students to look at the big picture and brainstorm why it is important to protect our plant populations.
3. Explain that we, as humans, can play a role in protecting plant and animal habitats.
4. Remind the students of how their “bee bots” collected pollen as they foraged among the plants within the maze.

**Action**

1. Handout the printed sheets from the word document to each student.
2. Have the students colour each picture, as they are all relevant to their garden.
3. The students can then cut out all the pictures and glue them onto a larger piece of construction paper like in the picture posted online.
4. The final task is for the students to write a couple sentences as to why it is important to protect honeybee habitats, which can then be pasted at the bottom of their garden photo.

**Consolidation/Extension**

1. Prior to colouring that pictures you can have a discussion with the students about each of the flowers or fruit featured in their garden.
2. Raspberries, Coneflowers, Sunflowers and Golden Rods are all native to Ontario. They can be very good sources of food for the bees because they bloom at different times during the months of May-August which guarantees a food source for the bees.

Why are honeybees important and why should be protect their habitats?
- Honeybees are one of our largest pollinators that help to grow many fruits, nuts and vegetables
- Without the flowers’ pollen and nectar bees cannot make honey
- Plant and flower diversity helps pollinators like honeybees pollinate farmers’ fields, as they are more likely to move through the field scouting out different plants.