

# Core Knowledge

- Bees are beautiful and fascinating and produce honey.
- Bees pollinate 80% of the wildflowers.
- We rely on this because much of our fruit and vegetables need to be pollinated to feed us and our livestock.
- Pollination is the fertilisation of a flower.
- This produces seeds enabling the next generation of the plant.
- There is growing public and political concern at bee decline across the world.
- History and Myth, people have collected honey since the dawn of time.
- Common parlance – queen bee, busy bee, hive of industry.

# The Honey Bee



Types of Bee

# Domain Themes

- Why are Bees important?
- Beekeeping history, myths, and symbolism.
- Structure of a colony.
- The Work of the Bee.
- Foragers.
- Structure of the Hive.
- Disease and Pests.
- Swarming.
- St Mary's Bees.

# Core Knowledge

- Mesolithic (middle stone age) first evidence of hunting for wild honey. People began to settle at the end of the Ice age (10,000 years ago).
- Cultivation encouraged bees and were encouraged to stay.
- Cardiff University is investigating the medicinal properties of honey.
- Colony made up of different types of honey bees. Usually one queen, tens of thousands of workers and hundreds of drones.
- Queen. Female, large shiny abdomen full of fertilised eggs, egg layer up to 1000 per day. Controls the colony with her scent.
- Workers. All female, run the colony. Nurses, cleans, builders and guards the hive.
- Drones. All male, largest of the three, very large eyes, no sting, mate with queen, live over the summer.

# Home Learning

Find and follow a recipe that involves honey.  
[Salted honey fudge & chocolate tart recipe | BBC Good Food](#)

Plant flowers that support bee life. For example, lavender, foxglove, borage and crocus.

# Key Vocabulary

- Pollination
- Sustainability
- Animalia
- Insects
- Apidae
- Apis
- Thorax
- Abdomen
- Mandibles.
- Immortal
- Regenerative
- Mellifluous
- Mesolithic
- Medieval
- Medicinal
- Queen
- Worker
- Drone
- Larvae
- Pupae
- Pupates
- Royal jelly
- Entourage
- Foragers
- Thermoregulation
- Ecology
- Environment