

Did You Know?

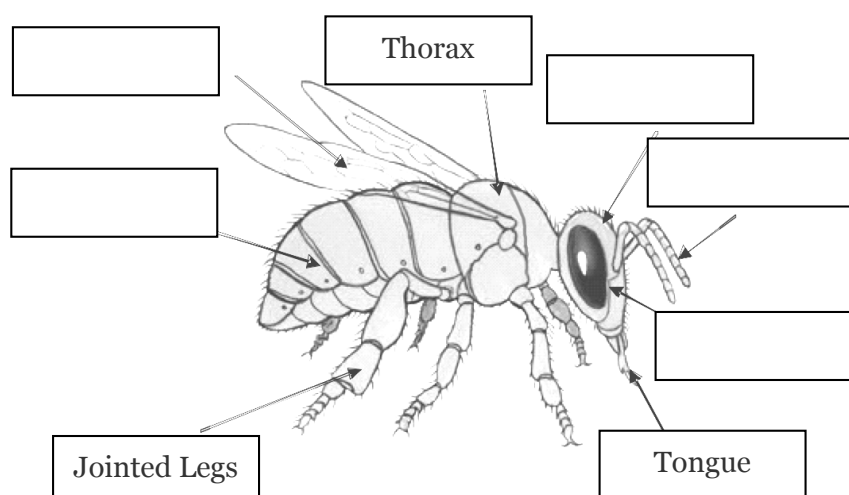
Bumblebees have **hairy legs** (to help collect food) and **smelly feet** (to let other bees know that they have visited a flower).

Bumblebees are obviously animals - but what type?

Scientists call them **Invertebrates** (animals without a backbone), and put them in a big group called the **Arthropods** (invertebrates with jointed legs). More specifically, they are **Insects** (arthropods with six legs). There are about 250 different types (**species**) of bumblebee in the world. Twenty-four of these live in Britain.

Can you finish this picture of a White-tailed bumblebee?

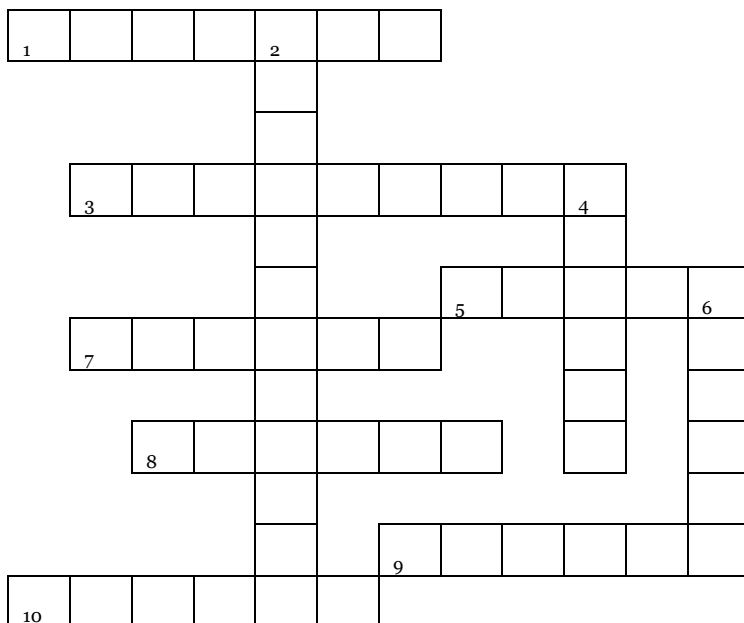
Use these keywords: Eye, Wing, Antenna, Head, Abdomen.



Bumblebee Facts

- To give them **energy** to move and grow, bumblebees drink sweet, sugary **nectar** from inside **flowers**, and eat the dust-like **pollen** from the male parts (**stamen**) of flowers.
- Bumblebees live together in family groups (**colonies**) in a nest - often underground.
- Each nest has a mother bee (**Queen**) together with lots of her daughters (**worker bees**) and sons (**drones**).
- Bumblebees have hair to keep them warm, but each winter the cold kills-off all of the drones and worker bees.
- Queen bees sleep (**hibernate**) through the winter and wake in the spring, when they search-out a new nest to lay eggs and start a new colony.

Use your knowledge and the facts from page 1 to complete this crossword?



Across

1. Scientific word for different types of plants and animals.
3. To sleep through the winter.
5. The head of a bee colony.
7. Six-legged animal.
8. Daughter of a queen bumblebee.
9. The part of the plant that bees like to visit.
10. Dust-like food for bees.

Down

2. Animals without backbones.
4. You need this to move and grow.
6. A sugary juice inside flowers.

Mobile-Making Activity:

There are 24 species of bumblebee living in Britain. They differ in colour and size and you can learn to identify some of these by making your own bumblebee mobile and hanging it up at home.

What you will need

- Template pages printed on stiff white card.
- String cut into seven pieces - one 30cm long (A), two 25cm long (B), two 20cm long (C) and two 15cm long (D).

Instructions

1. Cut around the shapes on both template pages.
2. Fold each bee template in half along the line below the bee name so that you have a bee picture on both sides.
3. Use a pencil to make holes in the mobile template and on each bee template where there are dots.
4. Cut a line half way through each mobile template (where marked) and slot together to make a cross.
5. Thread the string through the holes in the bees and tie in a knot. Then tie the other end of the string to the mobile cross - match the length of string and code (B, C or D) shown above.
6. Tie the longest piece of string to the remaining holes (A).
7. Hang up your mobile for everyone to enjoy.



Busy bees activity sheets
are produced thanks to
the generous support of:



Scottish Natural Heritage
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Supported by
The National Lottery
through the Heritage Lottery Fund

