**Why do bumblebees need flowers?**

Like us, bumblebees need food to help them grow.

And they get this food from flowers.

Inside flowers there is a sugary juice called nectar. Bumblebees drink nectar to give them energy.

There is also a yellow dust called pollen. Bumblebees collect pollen and feed it to baby bees to help them grow strong.

One special type of bumblebee is called the Great yellow bumblebee, and it’s very rare.

**Bumblebee wildflower facts**

- The countryside used to be covered in beautiful wildflower meadows.
- Wildflowers have lots of pollen and nectar for bumblebees to eat.
- Sadly most of our wildflowers have disappeared.
- This means our bumblebees don’t have enough food to eat.
- We can help by planting wildflowers in our gardens.

**Can you help the hungry Great yellow bumblebee to find her way to the flower?**
Make a bumblebee wild herb garden

Did you know that some of the foods that we eat are bumblebee favourites? Herbs like rosemary, chives, thyme, sage and marjoram make our dinners extra tasty and when they flower, they provide bumblebees with lots of pollen and nectar to eat too. So, why not make your own bumblebee wild herb garden and help to feed the bees and your family?

What you will need:

• An adult to help you.
• A large pot or bucket with holes in the bottom for drainage.
• Enough soil or compost to fill the pot.
• 3 or 4 herb plants – you can buy these from most supermarkets.

Instructions:

1. Add the soil to the large pot until it is ¾ full.
2. Take the herbs out of their small pots and place them in your herb garden where they will be planted. Once all of the herbs are in the pot, add the rest of the soil to hold everything in place.
3. Use a watering can with a rose spout to give the herbs a shower of water. Leave them in your garden for your family and the bumblebees to enjoy!

Can you find the names of ten wildflowers in the wordsearch?

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comfrey
dandelion
dogrose
iris
knapweed
marigold
thistle
vetch
woundwort

Produced thanks to generous support of: