

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 bumblebees to help them grow strong.

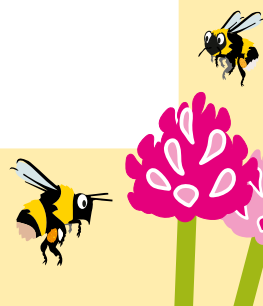
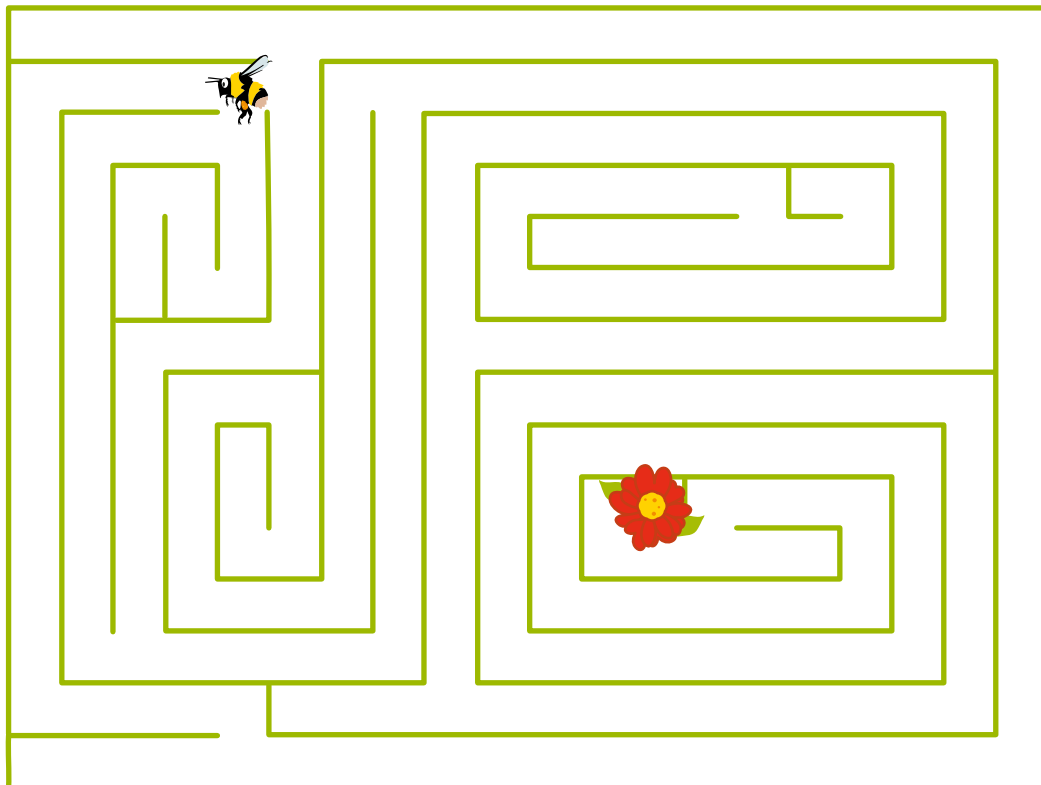
Bumblebee Wildflower Facts

- 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 bumblebee to find her way to the flower?



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

k	n	a	p	w	e	e	d	w	w	t	s	b	c
t	y	q	o	d	p	x	p	k	p	c	d	m	o
p	i	f	o	x	g	l	o	v	e	l	i	j	m
b	u	i	s	g	c	e	b	q	o	v	d	b	f
h	n	e	t	t	l	e	p	m	r	c	a	j	r
t	h	i	s	t	l	e	n	f	e	l	i	y	e
q	k	p	q	g	l	c	n	t	b	o	s	o	y
d	a	n	d	e	l	i	o	n	u	v	y	r	z
b	l	u	e	b	e	l	l	a	x	e	v	o	y
b	u	t	t	e	r	c	u	p	n	r	l	c	j



daisy	nettle
clover	thistle
buttercup	comfrey
dandelion	bluebell
foxglove	knapweed

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 they provide bumblebees with lots of pollen and nectar.

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 small holes in the bottom for drainage.
- Enough soil or compost to fill the pot.
- 3–4 herb plants – you can buy these from most supermarkets.

Instructions

1. Put some soil into the large pot until it is nearly full.
2. Take the herbs out of their smaller pots, and arrange them in the large pot.
3. Once all of the herbs are in the pot, add the rest of the soil around them, to hold everything in place.
4. Use a watering can with a rose spout to give the herbs a shower of water.
5. Leave the herb pot somewhere sunny in your garden for your family and the bumblebees to enjoy!

