



Beyond the Book Activity

Ladybug Girl

by David Soman and Jacky Davis

Once you have read the book, it is time to move outside. Take a few minutes to prepare for the outdoors and remember, the more comfortable you are the more success you will have on this endeavor. Follow the guide below to an adventure beyond the book!

Engage: Pollinators	Extend: Giving Back
<p>Just like Ladybug Girl and the Bug Squad found out, individuals really can make a big difference and sometimes even the smallest gestures can add up to make a big impact.</p> <p>Some of nature's smallest animals make huge differences in the lives of all of us. Pollinators are insects that travel from flower to flower, gathering nectar for their food. As they forage they also transport pollen from one flower to the next. This exchange of pollen between flowers makes it possible for many plants to create seeds.</p> <p>Many of the foods we eat would not grow without the help of these tiny pollinators. We depend on those millions of little bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, and other bugs, to produce the food on our plates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Go out in your yard or neighborhood and look around for flowers. Any tiny flower will do. Before you touch it, can you see any insects in or around your flower that might be pollinators? Now examine the flower carefully. See if you can find any pollen in or on any part of the flower. 	<p>Just like honeybees live in hives, humans live in communities. It takes the efforts of all of us to make a thriving and healthy community. When we all pitch in, we all do better.</p> <p>Walk around your neighborhood or yard and observe your surroundings.</p> <p>Can you Identify any needs in your yard that you could help resolve? Is there anything broken that you can fix? Is there a mess in need of cleaning up? Complete the table below.</p> <hr/> <p>Needs</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <p>Does it feel like there is a lot to do for just one person? You may feel overwhelmed and that is ok. We can accomplish a lot more than we think possible when we work together, just like the Bug Squad! Who is in your Bug Squad, do you have any siblings or friends who can help you out?</p> <p>There is always a lot to do but it is important that we prioritize our list and focus what we have the power to do. Circle the need that you think you and your Bug Squad could help fix.</p>
Explore: Honeybees	Resources
<p>One of our most well-known pollinators is the honey bee. Speaking of small things that make a big impact... it takes 12 honeybees their entire lives to gather enough nectar for just one teaspoon of honey! It takes over 500 bees and nectar from 2 million flowers to make one pound of honey. Now that's a team effort!</p> <p>Take a drop of honey from your house and put it on a small rock in a quiet spot outside. Check on your honey/rock all day to see if any honeybees find it. If they do, they'll gather it up and take it back for their hive.</p>	<p>The Magic School Bus Inside a Beehive https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L6dJ_lSmKlo</p> <p>What if There Were No Bees? by Suzanne Buckingham Slade https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZoB-74Zs4M</p> <p>What Can a Citizen Do? By Dave Eggers https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E3nPWn1yHj0</p>

