

P2 Week of 01.02.21

We are continuing to follow our planned Religious and Moral Education Programme. This term P2's RME topic is Growing up in Jesus' Time

Lesson 3: Jesus' Ministry

Watch the story of John the Baptist

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_OO84K9RuF0



Ever since John was a baby his parents knew that he would be special. Just the fact that he was born was a miracle. It was a miracle because his parents were very old when he was born - way too old to have a baby. Only God could make that happen.

About 17 years have passed since Jesus visited the temple at the age of twelve. John the Baptist is now about 30 and his cousin, Jesus, is probably 6 months younger.

John grew up in the desert. There is not much food in the desert. John had to learn to eat all kinds of unusual things. He found some wild bees and was able to eat some of the honey from the honeycomb. He also ate something else that was unusual. John ate bugs! Sometimes people back then would eat locusts. In some places today, people still eat locusts.

John also wore unusual clothes. He wore animal skins instead of regular clothing.

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John was a good man. He obeyed God and always tried to do the right thing. God gave John a special job. John's job was to get people ready for Jesus to start preaching.

- What kind of food did John the Baptist eat in the wilderness?
- What was the important message that John the Baptist preached?

Ask your adult to read this information about Bees to you. Bees are very important creatures and we must look after them.

Bees

Honey bees are super-important pollinators for flowers, fruits and vegetables.

This means that they help other plants grow!

Bees transfer pollen between the male and female parts, allowing plants to grow seeds and fruit.



Honey bees live in hives (or colonies). The members of the hive are divided into three types:

Queen: One queen runs the whole hive. Her job is to lay the eggs that will spawn the hive's next generation of bees. The queen also produces chemicals that guide the behaviour of the other bees.

Workers: these are all female and their roles are to forage for food (pollen and nectar from flowers), build and protect the hive, clean and circulate air by beating their wings. Workers are the only bees most people ever see flying around outside the hive.

Drones: These are the male bees, and their purpose is to mate with the new queen. Several hundred live in each hive during the spring and summer. But come winter, when the hive goes into survival mode, the drones are kicked out!



What are *buzzing* bugs most famous for?

Delicious **honey**!

But did you know they produce honey as food stores for the hive during winter?

Luckily for us, these little workers produce 2-3 time more honey than they need, so we get to enjoy the tasty treat, too!



If the queen bee dies, workers will create a new queen by selecting a young larva (the newly hatched baby insects) and feeding it a special food called "**royal jelly**".

This allows the larva to develop into a fertile queen.



Honey bees are fab flyers.

They fly at a speed of around **25km per hour** and beat their wings **200 times per second!**



Each bee has **170 odorant receptors**, which means they have one serious sense of smell!

They use this to communicate within the hive and to recognise different types of flowers when looking for food.



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The average worker bee lives for just five to six weeks.

During this time, she'll produce around a twelfth of a teaspoon of honey.



The queen can live up to five years.

She is busiest in the summer months, when she can lay up to **2,500** eggs a day!

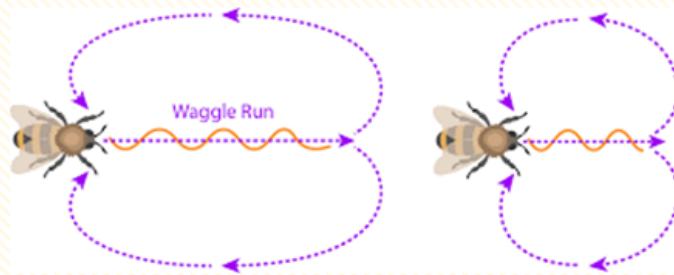


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Honey bees are also brilliant boogiers!

To share information about the best food sources, they perform their '**waggle dance**'.

When the worker returns to the hive, it moves in a figure-of-eight and waggles its body to indicate the direction of the food source.



Over the past 15 years, colonies of bees have been disappearing, and the reason remains unknown.

Billions of Honey bees across the world are leaving their hives, never to return.

We can all do our bit to support these brilliant bugs, gang! Why not plant flowers rich in nectar, such as **lavender** and **bluebells**, which will help bees find the food they need?

Also, be sure to choose local British honey, too, which will support our Honey bees and their beekeepers!



- Make honey sandwiches. You might want to put candy "bugs" (like gummy grasshoppers) inside the sandwich. That will be a fun surprise.