


Name:

Class:

Date:

 This text has been adapted from the original text on the Natural History Museum website (www.nhm.ac.uk/kids-only).

Honeybees

What is a honeybee?

A honeybee is a kind of bee. Honeybees visit flowers to collect the nectar. They use the nectar to make honey (a sweet liquid)

Many bees live together in one home, called a nest. The inside of the nest is made of honeycomb, which is waxy and full of holes called cells.

Thousands of bees can live in one nest, and there is one queen bee in every nest.

The queen lays all the eggs that will eventually grow into adult bees – she lays one egg in each cell of the nest and makes a special glue to stick the egg inside.



1

a) What do honeybees collect from flowers?

AF2
1 mark

b) What do they do with it?

AF2
1 mark

2

What is honey? Tick **one**.

Honey is: full of holes ☐
a special glue ☐

a sweet liquid ☐
a kind of bee ☐

AF2
1 mark

3

What do you learn about the honeybees' home?

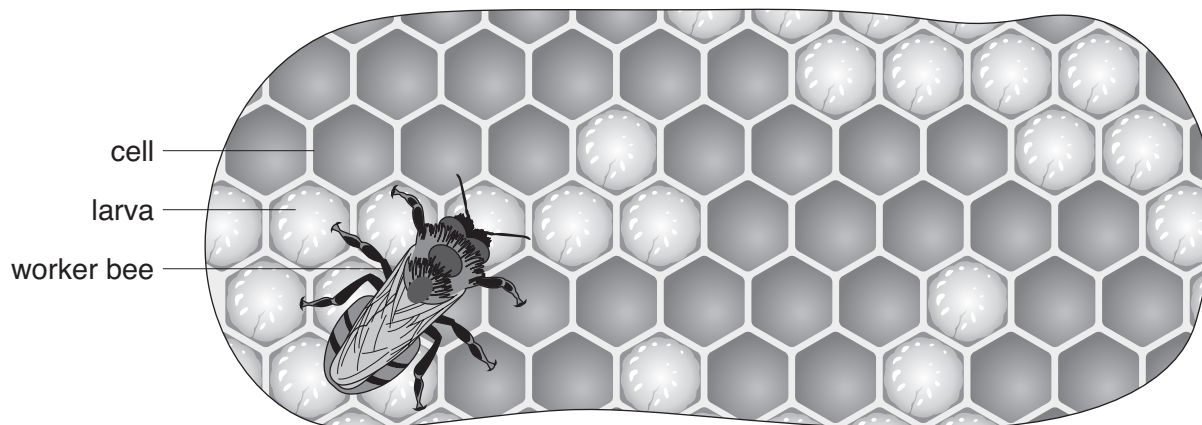
Write **one** thing.

AF2
1 mark

/ 4
Total for this page

Are all the bees in the nest the same?

No – there are different kinds of bee in each nest. Most are worker bees – they are the largest in number but the smallest in size. Worker bees have very busy lives. They build the honeycomb inside the nest and collect nectar to make honey. The worker bees feed this honey to the larvae (baby bees).



A section of a honeycomb inside a nest

4

Look at the table below. **Fill in** the missing information to show what the words from the text tell you about worker bees. **Use your own words.**

Words from the text	What the words tell you about worker bees
largest in number	
smallest in size	They are smaller than other bees.

1 mark AF3

5

Worker bees do lots of jobs. Write **one** of these jobs.

1 mark AF2

1 mark / 2
Total for this page

Why do bees sting?

A honeybee will not often sting, except when it is stepped on or handled roughly. If a bee is buzzing around you, it may smell perfume or soap and think the smell is nectar or food. The bee will check you out to see if it can find the nectar, but if you stand very still, it will realise there is no nectar and go away.

Did you know?

- A bee's stinger contains poison. It stays in the animal or person that has been stung.
- Honeybees have large eyes to help them find flowers. They also do a special dance to show each other where to find the best nectar.



6

Why should you be careful when handling bees?

 1 mark

AF3

7

a) What should you do if a honeybee buzzes around you?

 1 mark

AF2

b) Why should you do this?

 1 mark

AF3

8

How do bees **work together** to find nectar? Tick **one**.

They stay very still near flowers. ☐

They sting people and animals. ☐

They do a dance to point the way. ☐

They visit flowers to find the best nectar. ☐

 1 mark

AF3

/ 4

Total for this page

These questions are about the whole text.

- 9 Draw lines to match the beginning and the end of the sentences.

Beginning

A queen bee
makes a special glue

A worker bee
makes honey

A honeybee
has large eyes

End

to feed to the
baby bees.

to help it
find flowers.

to stick her eggs
to the nest.

1 mark AF3

- 10 Look at page 13. Why is the queen bee so important to the nest?

1 mark AF3

- 11 Look at page 13. Why is **What is a honeybee?** in **bold** type in the text?

1 mark AF4

/ 3
Total for this page

12

Look at page 14. Why has a diagram been used here?

AF6

1 mark

13

Tick to show whether each sentence is **true** or **false**.

One has been done for you.

	True	False
All the bees in the nest are the same.		
A honeybee will sting for no reason.		✓
A bee's sting has poison in it.		

AF2

1 mark

/ 15

Total for this test