



Home, Sweet Home

Introduction

In the book *In the Trees, Honey Bees* the illustrator, Cris Arbo, gives the reader a close-up view of the honey bee hive. Without the hive, the colony would not survive. In this activity students will create their own honey bee hive.

Materials Needed

- ◆ Paper
- ◆ Crayons
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Tape

Key Concepts

- ◆ Organisms' patterns of behavior relate directly to the environment.
- ◆ The environment must supply the needs of organisms.

For standards correlation please see our website.

Procedure

1. Give each student two pieces of paper, one brown, one yellow.
2. Lay the brown piece of paper on top of the yellow one so they match.
3. Tape the top edges of the paper together to create a hinge.
4. Have students cut a hole in the brown piece of paper like a hole in a tree.
5. On the bottom piece of paper, have students draw the inside of a honey bee home.
6. When students are finished, have each share their drawings.
7. Have students discuss their drawings. How many parts are there? Are some areas missing? Could the bees survive in this home? Why or why not?

Nature Connections

- ◆ Invite students to look at the tree pictures in *In the Trees, Honey Bees*. What other creatures live in trees? What parts of the tree does it live in and why?
- ◆ Ask students to compare their homes with the honey bee hive. How is it the same? How is it different?

Additional Resources

Honey Bee Terminology:

Colonies - Honey bees live in large family groups called **colonies**.

Hives - Beekeepers wooden boxes for the bee colony

Comb - The central structure of the colony is the wax **comb**

Beeswax - The comb is made of **beeswax**, a substance secreted from worker bee abdominal glands.

Swarming - Honey bees move from site to site by **swarming**, where a portion of the bees leave the colony with the old queen to take up residence in a new location.

