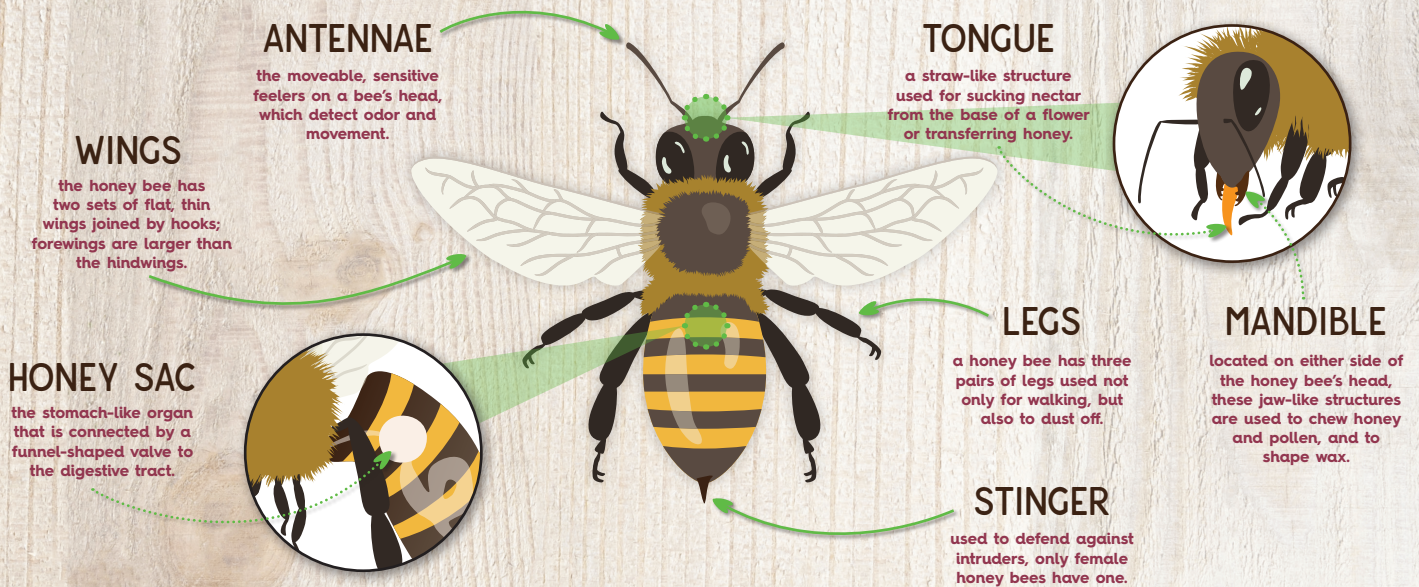


THE HONEY FILES: BIOLOGY

Honey bees are specially built to make delicious honey. Each part of the bee plays an important role in helping the honey bee collect nectar and create natural honey.

THE ANATOMY OF A BEE



A BEE'S LIFE

Like many insects, honey bees go through four stages of development: egg, larva, pupa and adult. The bee changes dramatically in each stage.

1 A queen bee inserts her abdomen into an empty cell and lays a soft, white, oval egg about the size of a dot over an "i."

2 After three days, a wormlike larva hatches from the egg. The larva is fed by worker bees and grows much larger.

3 On day ten, the larva stops eating and spins a silk covering called a cocoon around itself. An adult worker bee caps the cell with wax to protect the developing pupa. Inside the cocoon, a pupa develops and begins to look more like an insect than a worm. It grows eyes, legs and wings.

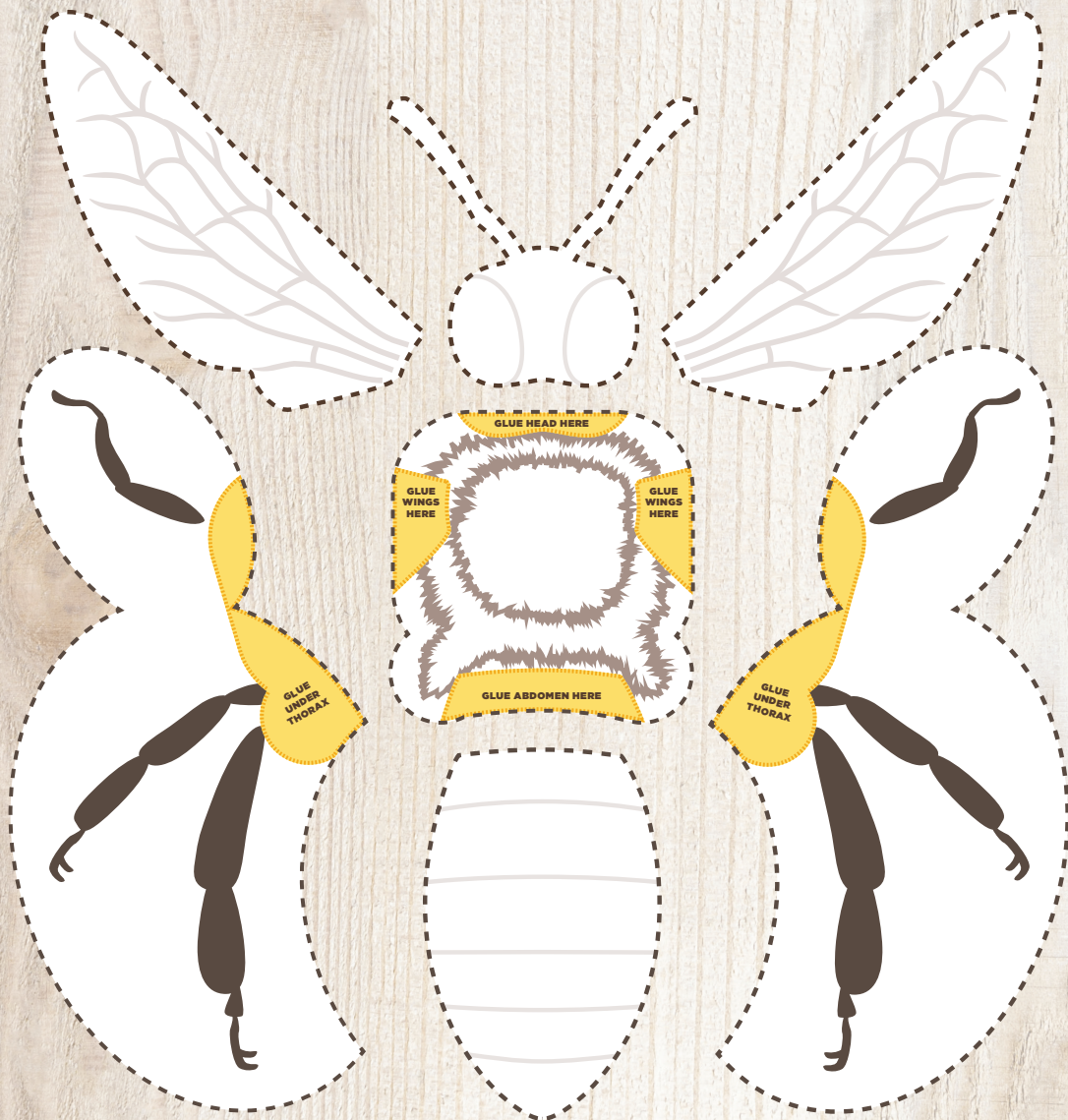
4 Finally, an adult bee chews its way out of the cell.



Eggs develop into different types of bees based on what they're fed, on the size of the cell they develop inside and whether or not the egg was fertilized.

ACTIVITY: BUILD A BEE

Color the bee below, then with the help of an adult, use scissors to cut out the different bee parts. Use a glue stick to glue the bee parts together according to the yellow guides on the bee.



SWEET FACT:

WHEN A HONEY BEE STINGS A PERSON OR OTHER ANIMAL, THE HONEY BEE WILL DIE. THAT'S BECAUSE THE STINGER HAS BARBS THAT PREVENT THE BEE FROM PULLING IT OUT OF THE PERSON OR ANIMAL IT HAS STUNG. WHEN SHE FLIES AWAY, SHE WILL DIE BECAUSE LEAVING THE STINGER BEHIND DAMAGES HER BODY.