

## Brilliant Buzzin' Bee Facts



- What food do bees give us? If you said 'honey' then you're wrong!

Kind of...bees also provide us with most of the fruit and vegetables we eat, so without bees there'd be no strawberry jam on your toast, or ketchup on your chips!

- Do you know that bumblebees have FIVE eyes?!

They have two large eyes like us, but then above those, they have three small eyes, so they see the world very differently from us. Let's have a look at a dandelion through the eyes of a bee...



Flowers such as dandelions, which look to us like they are only one colour, can actually have other colours near to centre of the flower which our eyes can't see.

A bumblebee's extra eyes can see these different colours, which helps the bee to find its food, and in turn helps the flower because it helps more flowers to grow.

- Bumblebees don't live in beehives!

Bumblebees live in nests in the ground, or in piles of leaves, it's honey bees that live in hives! Each nest has a mother bee (the queen), lots of daughter bees (the workers) and a few sons (the drones).

- Not all bees sting!

Only female bumblebees sting, and they hardly ever do, only if you frighten them.

- Long live the Queens!

In winter, all the bees die except the queens who sleep (hibernate) through the cold weather. When the weather gets warmer in the spring, the queens wake up and go looking for a nest, then they lay eggs to start a new family (a colony).