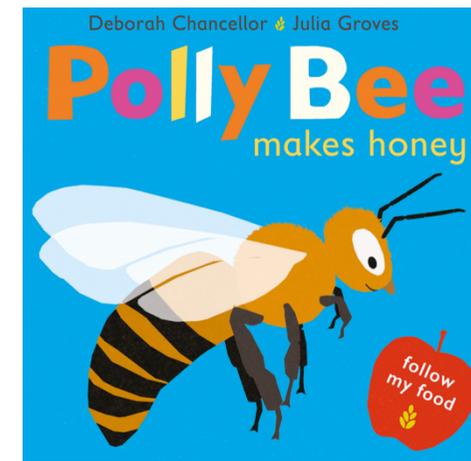


## Lesson plan based on **Polly Bee Makes Honey** by Deborah Chancellor & Julia Groves

In *Polly Bee Makes Honey*, we follow Polly the worker bee as she collects pollen and nectar from various flowers, bringing it back to the hive where it is stored in the honeycomb. We meet the queen bee and the drones, and finally see honey being harvested and enjoyed.

A new series to help children understand and appreciate where their food comes from, encouraging them to be environmentally aware.

- Simple quiz and fun facts at the end explain more about dairy farming and produce
- Full of fact-checked information presented in a simple and stylish way, to spark the interest of young children and their parents



<b>Science</b> <b>Key Stage 1</b>	<b>National Curriculum objectives:</b> Pupils should be taught: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>To observe and make a record of an animal</b></li><li>• <b>That animals and the environment should be treated with care and sensitivity</b></li></ul>	<b>Resources:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Polly Bee Makes Honey</i> by Deborah Chancellor</li><li>• Images from the book</li><li>• Jar of honey</li><li>• Photographs of honeybees</li><li>• Selection of craft materials</li><li>• Books / ICT resources for carrying out research</li><li>• Recipe books</li></ul>
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Show the children a jar of honey and ask them what it is, and where does it come from?

Show the children a picture of a bee and find out what they know already about bees.

Record any key words, eg insect, hive, sting, nectar, honey etc.

Explain to the children that they will be learning more about the life and job of the honeybee, and how a honeybee makes honey.

Read *Polly Bee Makes Honey* and tell the children that as you read, they should be thinking about what else this book tells them about bees and honey. Add these ideas to those you have already gathered.

Show children the images of Polly collecting nectar. You could also show a video of a bee collecting pollen.

Talk about the following:

- Worker bees (like Polly) gather nectar and pollen from flowers
- There are different kinds of bees in a hive (worker bees, drones and the queen bee)
- Worker bees suck the nectar from the flowers
- Worker bees gather pollen in 'baskets' on their hind legs. The pollen is used to feed baby bees in the hive
- The nectar is made into honey, and the pollen is stored in a honeycomb for food
- Bees help to pollinate flowers by transferring pollen

What do the children think attracts bees to flowers?

If you can take the children outside, can they observe which flowers in a garden are visited more often by bees?

What do you notice? What do you observe?

**Observe, investigate and create:**

**After looking at images of Polly Bee as well as photographs of honeybees, ask the children to identify the parts of a bee, and to create their own honeybee, using a range of materials.**

**Ask: How many legs, wings and antennae do bees have?**

**Observe, investigate and create:**

**Research recipes that use honey.**

**Can the children design and write their own recipe that includes honey?**

**(Use of non-fiction texts, ICT and recipe books for research)**

Recap what the children have learnt about honeybees and how honey is made.

Tell the children that honeybees are very clever and communicate with each other.

Show the children a video of the 'waggle dance' a honeybee does, when it has found a good source of nectar.

Can the children devise their own waggle dance?

A little bit of fun: Follow the trail to match the words and pictures found at the back of the book.

*Jenny Guest is an independent educational consultant and writer alongside her role as an Assistant Headteacher in a large London primary school. She has been a primary school teacher for ages 3-11. Jenny is also an avid reader of children's literature and runs @bookishwaytoplay on Instagram, which aims to showcase and review the very best children's books, as well as create accompanying supportive learning activities for toddlers, preschool and primary school age children.*

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