

Join the Great British Bee Count



Bee Quiz

Try our fun quiz to learn more about bees!

Circle the right answer!



1

How many species of bee do you think have been seen in Britain?

-
- a) around 10
 - b) around 100
 - c) around 270

2

Bees tongues are different lengths to drink nectar from different flowers. How long is the UK's longest bee tongue?

-
- a) as long as its head
 - b) half as long as its body
 - c) as long as its body

3

When do bees need flowers to feed from?

-
- a) summer
 - b) spring
 - c) spring and summer
 - d) every season

4

When a honeybee finds nectar, how does she tell the other bees where it is? Does she...

-
- a) do a dance,
 - b) draw a map
 - c) sing a song

5

Which of these is a place where bees make their nests?

-
- a) an old mouse hole
 - b) a beehive
 - c) a snail shell
 - d) all three

6

If we didn't have bees to pollinate food for us, what would happen?

-
- a) we would starve
 - b) we would have fewer types of healthy food
 - c) it would not affect us

7

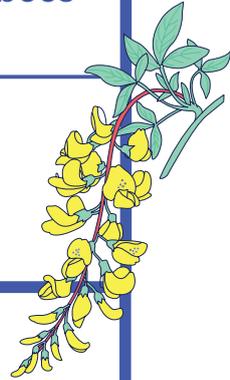
How does a bumblebee pollinate a tomato flower?

-
- a) dip her legs into it
 - b) stick her tongue into it
 - c) grabs hold of it and buzzes

8

Which of these is not a real bee?

-
- a) Chocolate mining bee
 - b) Hairy-footed flower bee
 - c) Long-horned bee
 - d) Blue bumblebee



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Answers



1. **c)** Around 270 species of bee have been recorded, although some have now become extinct in the UK. There are now about 25 bumblebees, 250 solitary bees, and 1 honey bee.

2. **c)** The Garden bumblebee can stretch its tongue to the length of its whole body! This helps it feed from deep flowers like honeysuckle and irises. It tucks its 2cm long tongue under its belly when resting.

3. **d)** Bees need to feed during every season (although spring and summer are the main times bees are active).

4. **a)** A 'waggle' dance is an action honeybees perform to tell other bees where the nectar is. The dance shows the direction and distance to the flowers.

5. **d)** Only Honeybees live in beehives. Most bumblebees nest in small mammal burrows and solitary bees may nest in many places –some even use empty snail shells.

6. **b)** Without bees and other pollinating insects it would be difficult for farmers to grow many of the healthy fruit and vegetables we enjoy every day, so our meals would be a bit boring, and contain fewer vitamins.

7. **c)** Tomato flowers hold their pollen very tightly, so bumblebees grab hold of them and buzz to shake out the pollen. This special method is called 'buzz-pollination' and honeybees cannot do it.

8. **d)** There aren't any blue bumblebees, but all the others are real solitary bees named for the way they look. Male Hairy-footed flower bees really do have hairy feet!