

Beehive (

Bees build nests to raise their offspring and store food where they are protected from natural disasters and predators. Different types of bees choose other locations and styles for nesting. Some bees, such as leaf cutter bees and sweet bees, nest in the ground, 70% of all the 20,000 species of bee's nest underground.

Bee nests or hives are made of wax, which is produced from glands on their abdomen. The nests are made up of many hexagonal cells, which the bees use to store honey and pollen. Hexagons are strong and efficient structures that can support a lot of weight. This is important for the bees, who need to build a sturdy nest to protect their colony. In general, a healthy hive has around 10,000 to 60,000 bees. The number of bees in a hive is also directly proportional to the food available and the size of the hive.

Bee nests and bee hives are often confused, however, there is a slight difference. Any structure or area where a colony of bee's lives and raises it young is referred to as a bee's nest. This can include man-made constructions like beehives as well as naturally occurring cavities in rocks and trees.

However, the term "beehive" particularly refers to a man-made structure intended to contain a colony of bees. Usually contrasted with wood, hives are built to resemble the natural cavities that bees would utilize to build nests.

Fun fact about bees

- A honey bee typically visits 50 to 100 flowers during a collection trip.
- A honey bee would have to fly around 90,000 miles — over three times around the globe — to make one pound of honey. It would take one ounce of honey to fuel her flight around the world.
- Honey is 80% sugars and 20% water.
- Honey bees produce beeswax from eight paired glands on the underside of their abdomen.
- Honey bees must consume about 8 pounds of honey to be able to biochemically produce each pound of beeswax.
- Honey bees maintain a temperature of 92-93 degrees Fahrenheit in their central brood nest regardless of whether the outside temperature is 110 or -40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Activity

cardboard posters with all this information written there will also be a question: Is this a beehive or bee's nest? Where people will have to grab a pin which will be provided in the station and put it under the answer they think is correct.

Memorial Garden (sophie):

To enhance environmental consciousness in our school community, we are working on establishing a station called **“Whispers of the Garden”** in the memorial garden of the school. This peaceful area includes a pond, rock benches, and serene nooks, and is already inhabited by diverse species. We seek to assist students and visitors in engaging with this natural setting by motivating them to observe, contemplate, and understand the life surrounding them.

The station will feature two engaging components: **“Nature Sculptures”** and a **“Hidden Discoveries.”**

Biodiversity refers to the range of living organisms found in a specific environment, and it is crucial for the well-being of ecosystems. Compact spaces such as our memorial garden, which includes a pond and a variety of plants, can sustain numerous species, even if we don't always observe them. Increasing awareness of this biodiversity is crucial for fostering appreciation for nature and promoting sustainable practices. Numerous students walk through the garden unaware that it is a thriving ecosystem .

Our station aims to change that by drawing attention from the largest to the smallest living creatures and plants that call it home.

Nature Sculptures: This installation will consist of several small sculptures handcrafted (wood, clay...) of local animals or plants, such as frogs, birds, dragonflies, and lily pads, made from weatherproof materials. Each sculpture will include a short, poetic phrase engraved on a plaque written from the perspective of the creature it represents. These “voices” they have give a personality to each organism and invite people to think about their importance in the ecosystem. Placing the sculptures in realistic spots: by the pond, near tree roots, or under benches, encouraging students to explore and make connections between the artwork and the real creatures nearby.

Hidden Discoveries: This space will include small engraved plaques or stones placed discreetly around the garden. Each will share a fun fact, a riddle, or a clue about the species that live in or around the area. The goal is to turn the garden into an interactive learning space where people discover information as they explore. This encourages quiet observation, curiosity, and a stronger appreciation for the garden's biodiversity. Students may start to notice birdsong, water ripples, insects on leaves, all things that are often overlooked.

Together, these two features form a creative and educational station that will have lasting value. The combination of storytelling, art, and discovery creates a powerful tool for biodiversity education. It can be used in science or art lessons, during breaks, or as part of guided tours. Because it's permanent, it will continue to benefit students year after year, with the possibility of future additions by other groups.

In conclusion, the **“Whispers of the Garden”** biodiversity station transforms the memorial

garden into a place of learning, reflection, and connection with nature. By blending sculpture and exploration, it will bring attention to the unseen life around us and remind everyone that even in small corners, nature is present, all we have to do is pay attention.