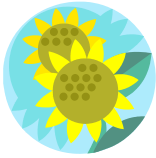




Magnuson Community Center Nature Programs
NATURE ADVENTURES FOR TOTS
"Busy Bees"



I've Been Workin' on a Flower

(sung to the tune of I've Been Workin' on the Railroad)

Lyrics by Emily Bishton

I've been workin' on a flower, all the live-long day.

I'm collectin' lots of pollen (or nectar), just to take it on my way.

Can't you hear my wings a buzzin', I rise up so early in the morn.

Makin' all your favorite food ever since you were born.

Makin' all your food, makin' all your food, ever since you were born (repeat)

Helping Kids Learn to Love Bees, and "Bee Safe"

1. Don't Get Between a Bee and its Lunch
 - a. Explain to (or ask) your child what a bee eats for lunch (nectar and pollen);
 - b. Then help them understand where a bee finds its lunch (flowers), and that bees need to work hard to find lunch for themselves and their babies;
 - c. Ask how they would feel if they were hungry and the kitchen was full of food but a grown-up wouldn't let them go in to eat (mad or sad);
 - d. Explain that bees don't mind if we watch them eat, but they get upset if we get between them and their lunch, and demonstrate the way that we can watch bees but not get in the way.
2. Don't Wave Your Hands in the Air Like a Great Big Bear
 - a. Explain to (or ask) your child about which creature is bigger, a bee or a bear?
 - b. Then help them understand that they are so much bigger than a bee
3. Don't Bee a Flower (Take Two Steps Back)
 - a. Explain to (or ask) your child about whether they are wearing clothes that are the same colors as a flower;
 - b. Then help them understand that bees can't see shapes very well, but they can see colors, and that a bee might come close to them thinking that they are a flower with sweet nectar, but they can help the bee figure out real soon they are not a flower by taking two steps backwards, because a flower can't walk!