

FOOTPRINT

Hill House School

Cambian
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Edition #28 2022

Promoting happy, healthy and sustainable living at Hill House and beyond.

ALL ABOUT BEES



Bees are among the hardest working creatures on the planet and benefit people, plants and the environment. By carrying pollen from one flower to another, bees and other pollinators enable not only the production of an abundance of fruits, nuts and seeds, but also more variety and better quality, contributing to 1/3rd of the world's food production and many plant-derived medicines. Three out of four crops around the globe that produce fruits or seeds for human consumption depend, at least in part, on pollinators.

Bees are also renowned for their role in providing high-quality food (honey, royal jelly and pollen) and other products used in healthcare and other sectors (beeswax, propolis, honey bee venom). But the work of bees entails so much more! They are vital for the preservation of ecological balance and biodiversity in nature. They provide one of the most recognisable ecosystem services, i.e. pollination, which is what makes food production possible. By doing so, they protect and maintain ecosystems as well as animal and plant species, and contribute to genetic and biotic diversity.

Bees also act as indicators of the state of the environment. Their presence, absence or quantity tells us when something is happening with the environment and that appropriate action is

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needed. By observing the development and health of bees, it is possible to ascertain changes in the environment and implement the necessary precautionary measures in time.

Because of the importance of bees, the United Nations declared the 20th May as **World Bee Day!** By observing World Bee Day, we can raise awareness of the essential role bees and other pollinators play in keeping people and the planet healthy, and on the many challenges they face.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP?



♥ Planting bee-friendly plants like daisies and red clover may help bring more bees to your area

♥ Leaving a small dish with a few pebbles and water can help out thirsty bees

♥ If you maintain a garden, lower or completely cut out the usage of pesticides as they can harm bees

♥ Support your local beekeepers by buying their honey and other hive products

Want to Know More?

Just Bee's mission is to reverse the decline in the British Bee population. Their [website](#) has lots of useful information about bees and they are asking for your help!



With every order from their website, they'll put a [free packet of wildflower seeds](#) in your box. The seeds are a special mix of bee-friendly flowers that provide bees with much needed food and shelter. They can be planted anywhere, in your garden, a small pot or window box or even at Hill House!

If you don't wish to place an order, they'll send you some for free anyway, all they ask is for 99p to cover the postage. Their goal is to have thousands of new bee-friendly flower patches all over the UK every year.

[#MAKEONECHANGE](#)

What one change can you make today?