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Earth's Tiny but Mighty Helpers

Bees are small but they do a big job for Earth. They fly from flower to flower and help plants grow by moving pollen. This is called pollination. Without bees, we would not have many foods like apples, oranges, and almonds.



Unfortunately, bees are in trouble. They need flowers to live, and there are not enough flowers in many places. Also, some bad chemicals called insecticides make bees sick. We need to help them because if there are no bees, there will be less food for us. Here is how we can help save the bees:

Plant flowers: Bees love flowers! We can plant more flowers in our gardens or in pots. Flowers give bees food and a place to live.

No bad chemicals: We should not use chemicals that can hurt bees. These are called pesticides. They are bad for bees and can make them very sick.

Water for bees: Bees get thirsty. We can leave a little water out for them to drink. A shallow dish with some stones in it for bees to land on is perfect.

Bee homes: We can make or buy special bee homes called bee hotels. These give bees a safe place to live.

When we help bees, we help our planet. More bees mean more flowers and more food. Let's take care of the bees because they take care of us.

1. Read the passage about "Earth's Tiny but Mighty Helpers".
2. Underline each word that you could not read or understand.

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Answer according to the reading passage:

1. What do bees move from flower to flower?

- a. nectar
- b. pollen
- c. honey

2. What big job do bees do for the earth?

- a. make fruit and vegetables
- b. make honey
- c. pollination

3. Why are bees in trouble?

- a. there are not enough flowers
- b. bad chemicals
- c. all of above

4. What is a bee hotel?

- a. same as a beehive
- b. a place for bees to pollinate
- c. safe place for bees to live

5. What should we leave out for bees?

- a. fresh flowers
- b. water to drink
- c. honey

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Open Response Questions

Open Response Questions for Thinking Skills:

- 1. Inferring**
- 2. Making Connections**
- 3. Summarizing**
- 4. Visualizing**

- 1. How would the world be different without bees?**
- 2. Why should we not use chemicals and pesticides?**
- 3. In 2 sentences explain what this passage is all about.**
- 4. Describe what a bee hotel might look like if you made one for the bees.**

- Could this story be a true story? How do you know?**
- How could you convince a friend to help the bees?**
- Why do you think some bees prefer certain flowers over other flowers?**
- How does helping bees also help other animals and plants.**
- Why should we provide the bees with water?**
- Can you think of other ways to help the bees?**