

Bee facts

Preparation

- Photocopy the activity sheet *Bee facts 1 and 2* for each group, using different-coloured paper for each group.
- Cut out the petal-shaped facts from *Bee facts 2* for each group and hide them around the outdoor area. You may wish to laminate them first to protect them.

The activity

- Assign each group a colour name and give them their corresponding flower on *Bee facts 1*.
- Explain that they are now going to act as bees and are going to go and look for some flower petals to complete their flowers. They must only bring back the right colour petals to complete their flower and can only collect one petal at a time.
- Explain that now they are acting as bees, they can only communicate in their groups by *waggle-dancing* (see teachers' notes *Bees factsheet*) to tell each other where they think some of their petals might be. (For the children to waggle-dance they might spin around when they are very close to a petal, flapping their 'wings').
- Once they have found all the petals, they can ask an adult to help them to read some of the facts about bees.
- Ask the children how difficult it was to communicate only by waggle-dancing. Bees must be very clever to be able to do this!
- Suggest to children that the next time they see a bee, they stand still and watch what it is doing as they might see it waggle-dancing!

