# Bee Flower Helpers

Notice how facts and linking words explain one topic.

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.2** "Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline the sentence that introduces the topic, circle three facts that explain it, and box the closing idea. These parts help an informative text stay clear and focused.

### How Bees Help Flowers

1. Bees visit flowers for food, but their trips also help plants make seeds. A bee drinks sweet nectar with its long tongue. It also picks up yellow pollen on its fuzzy body. When the bee lands on another flower of the same kind, some pollen rubs off. This move is called pollination, and it helps many plants grow fruit.

2. Flowers use pollen to make seeds, yet pollen cannot travel by itself. Bees carry it as they move from bloom to bloom. In fact, bees are important pollinators for foods such as apples, blueberries, and pumpkins. Wind and other animals can pollinate plants too. However, bees visit many flowers, so they often move pollen where it needs to go.

3. Pollination matters because it begins the growth of new seeds. Those seeds can become plants that give people food. Bees also collect nectar to take back to their hive, where they make honey. Protecting bees helps gardens and farms. People can plant bee-friendly flowers and avoid harming bees when they are gathering food from flowers.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What topic does the first paragraph introduce?

2. Write two details that explain how a bee moves pollen from one flower to another.

3. In paragraph 2, what two ideas are contrasted by the word "However"?

4. How does paragraph 3 give the reader a closing idea about pollination?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose an animal other than a bee that helps its habitat. Write a titled informative text in three paragraphs, 90 to 120 words, with a topic sentence, at least three facts, a linking word, and a closing idea.

**ANSWER KEY**

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**GRADE 3 · W.3.2**

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that introduces the topic, circle three facts that explain it, and box the closing idea. These parts help an informative text stay clear and focused. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | What topic does the first paragraph introduce? | **How bees help flowers make seeds through pollination.** |
| 2 | Write two details that explain how a bee moves pollen from one flower to another. | **A bee picks up pollen on its fuzzy body, and some pollen rubs off when it lands on another flower of the same kind.** |
| 3 | In paragraph 2, what two ideas are contrasted by the word "However"? | **Wind and other animals can pollinate plants, but bees visit many flowers and often move pollen where it needs to go.** |
| 4 | How does paragraph 3 give the reader a closing idea about pollination? | **It explains why pollination matters, then tells how people can help bees.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Sea Otters Help Kelp Forests Sea otters are marine mammals that live along some rocky coasts. They help kelp forests, which are underwater areas filled with tall brown seaweed. An otter's work begins when it searches for food. Sea otters eat sea urchins. Without otters, too many urchins can eat the kelp's holdfasts, the parts that anchor kelp to rocks. As a result, less kelp may grow. When otters keep urchin numbers lower, kelp has a better chance to grow. Kelp forests provide shelter and food for many ocean animals. Therefore, sea otters can help more than themselves when they eat. Protecting coastal waters gives otters and kelp forests safer places to live.

Accept equivalent wording for the passage questions when it matches the text. For the writing task, accept accurate animal facts organized into three paragraphs with a clear topic, supporting facts, a linking word, and a closing idea.