



This will give you a buzz

About the Honey Industry

This project is an initiative of the Australian Horticultural Corporation and has been produced by National Curriculum Services.



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To the Teacher

About the Project

Australia ranks as one of the four leading honey exporting countries in the world. There are some 14,000 registered beekeepers in Australia with about 2,000 of these working commercially to produce 87 per cent of Australia's honey.

Australia produces and sells about 30,000 tonnes of honey each year (60% domestic consumption, 40% for export). 26,000 tonnes is officially recorded. The balance, sold at the farm gate, is not recorded. Most of Australia's honey comes from the various eucalypt plant species (gum trees).

The aim of the project is to outline to teachers and students information about the honey industry and the nutritional benefits of honey.

The project contains a series of student activity sheets which provide both content and tasks for students. Each student activity sheet is self-contained although there are a range of extension activities which can be completed outside the classroom.

The activity sheets are designed to be photocopied as required.

The material is aimed at students in upper primary school levels and relates to studies in the Health and Physical Education, Science and Studies of Society and the Environment Key Learning Areas.

The project equates to Level 4 of the Australian curriculum statements and profiles. This relates to the upper primary years although it is recognised that teachers will make decisions as to the most appropriate year levels for their local curriculum.

Students who participate in the activities will develop

- knowledge about the nature of the honey industry
- an appreciation of the nutritional benefits of honey
- an understanding about the significance of the honey industry to the economy
- research skills focusing on locating and presenting information
- cooperative partner and group work skills.

The learning outcomes attached to each Strand provide many possibilities for student activities. It is anticipated the activities will serve as a stimulus for the development of additional ideas at the school level.

The student activities link the main Strands.

Teacher Guidelines

'This Will Give You A Buzz' is best seen as a unit within the SOSE curriculum. The content has been used to frame activities that facilitate learning outcomes within the strands of :

- Resources
- Place and Space
- Investigation and Communication
- Time, Continuity and Change
- Natural and Social Systems



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Contents

The project contains the following student activity sheets:

Student Activity Sheet No.	Topic	Strand	Learning Outcomes
1	About honey – from the beginning	Time, Continuity and Change	Describes ways of life of people in the past
2	Why honey?	Natural and Social Systems	Examines the flow of a product
3	The busy bee	Natural and Social Systems	Compares features of natural systems
4	The hive – home and factory	Resources	Explains factors that affect resource use and development
5	They seek it here, they seek it there – the gathering	Place and Space	Focuses on association between natural and human features
6	The source	Place and Space	Focuses on association between natural and human
7	Making the honey – a process	Resources	Focuses on variation in resource use and development
8	Harvest time	Natural and Social Systems	Describe an example of a cycle within a natural system
9	Home and abroad	Natural and Social Systems	Discusses economic decisions made
10	Honey facts	Investigation and Communication	Explain factors that affect resources



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Acknowledgments

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Enquiries about the project should be directed to:

National Curriculum Services
33 Hotham Street
Collingwood Victoria 3067
Telephone: 03 9415 1299
Facsimile: 03 9419 1205

For further information about the industry in general, bees and honey, the following associations and society welcome contact from teachers. Visits by school groups to beekeepers can be arranged through these organisations.

NSW (COUNTRY)

Mr Fred Benecke
Secretary
New South Wales Apiarists' Association
PO Box 290
ST IVES NSW 2075
Tel: (02) 487 2828 Fax: (02) 489 6123

NSW (METROPOLITAN SOUTH AND WEST)

The Amateur Beekeepers' Association of NSW
Bee Museum
Tel: (02) 542 3251

NSW (METROPOLITAN/NORTH AND EAST)

Mrs Sue Ellison
North Shore Beekeepers' Association
PO Box 986
LANE COVE NSW 2066
Tel: (02) 427 6871

VICTORIA

Ms Kerrin Williams
Secretary
Victorian Apiarists' Association
PO Box 40
CALIFORNIA GULLY VIC 3556
Tel: (054) 461 455 Fax: (054) 461 455

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Mrs Kay Lambert
Secretary
South Australian Apiarists Association
PO Box 87
AUBURN SA 5451
Tel: (08) 8849 2075 Fax: (08) 8849 2228

QUEENSLAND

Mrs Paula Dewar
Queensland Beekeepers' Association
MS 461
KALBAR QLD 4309
Tel: (074) 635 633 Fax: (074) 635 619

TASMANIA

Mr Harold Ayton
Secretary
Tasmanian Beekeepers' Association
38 James St
ULVERSTONE TAS 7315
Tel: (004) 252 089 Fax: (004) 252 052

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Mr Alan Kessel
Honorary Secretary
WA Apiarists' Society
8 Dorward Court
KARDINYA WA 6163
Tel: (09) 336 2817