

Name _____



Where Do Bumblebees Call Home?

Bumblebees are fascinating creatures that live in many parts of the world. These hardworking insects are found in North America, Europe, Asia, and even parts of South America. However, they don't live everywhere. Bumblebees cannot survive in very hot deserts or icy places like Antarctica.

Bumblebees prefer habitats that have plenty of flowers because flowers provide them with the nectar and pollen they need to survive. They can often be found in grasslands, forests, meadows, and gardens. These habitats have a variety of plants that bloom throughout the year, ensuring bumblebees have food for as long as possible. Bumblebees especially love areas with wildflowers, as these flowers are easy to access and full of nectar.

When it comes to their nests, bumblebees are not picky. They usually build their nests close to the ground, in places like abandoned rodent burrows, under piles of leaves, or even in grassy tussocks. Some bumblebees may nest above the ground in hollow trees or thick bushes, but this is less common. Their nests are small compared to honeybee hives, usually holding only 50 to 500 bees.

Bumblebees are essential pollinators for many plants, and the habitats they choose help keep ecosystems healthy. Unfortunately, their habitats are disappearing because of human activities like farming and building cities. Without enough flowers and nesting spaces, bumblebee populations can shrink. People can help by planting flowers in their gardens and creating spaces where bumblebees can nest safely.

Wherever bumblebees live, they work hard to gather nectar and pollen to support their colonies. These tiny homes and flower-filled habitats make a big difference in keeping the natural world balanced.