

Name _____



Bumblebees' Busy Days

Bumblebees are active, hardworking insects with fascinating daily habits and behaviors. These tiny creatures follow a routine that revolves around finding food and taking care of their colony.

Bumblebees are most active during the day. As soon as the sun rises and the flowers open, bumblebees begin their work. They spend their daylight hours flying from flower to flower, collecting nectar and pollen. These busy bees rely on their sharp eyesight to find colorful flowers, which usually have the most food for them. When evening approaches and the temperature cools down, bumblebees return to their nests to rest.

Bumblebees live in groups, called colonies. A colony can have anywhere from 50 to 500 bumblebees, depending on the species. At the center of the colony is the queen bee. She lays all the eggs while the worker bees take care of the rest of the chores. Worker bees collect food, clean the nest, and care for the young bees, known as larvae. Male bumblebees, called drones, have the job of mating with the queen. Once their job is done, the drones usually leave the nest.

Bumblebees are highly social and work together to keep the colony running smoothly. They communicate with each other by buzzing and through their movements. For example, when a bumblebee finds a flower with a lot of nectar, it can let the other bees know where to find it. This teamwork helps the colony stay healthy and strong.

While bumblebees are not aggressive, they will defend their colony if threatened. Female worker bees have stingers, but they only use them when absolutely necessary. Bumblebees are more focused on finding food and taking care of their colony than on fighting.

From sunrise to sunset, bumblebees are busy insects that play an important role in nature. Their teamwork, dedication, and fascinating behaviors make them one of the most interesting insects in the world.