



School Name, Smithfield Middle School
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PBL Postcard

Overview After a field trip to the local apiary to watch the honey harvest, my students returned to class with a lot of questions. How do bees make honey? Why do bees make honey? Back in class, we researched pollinators and organisms that need pollinating. We created wanted posters, focusing on local organisms like cotton blossoms as well as bees. We contacted the local beekeepers association. They volunteered to come in and work with us to build bee boxes. After building the boxes, we painted the boxes to reflect the importance of pollinators. The bee boxes will be auctioned off as part of an art contest. The money raised will be returned to the local beekeepers association to be used for local bee research and to sustain the bee box building project.

Driving Question Why are bees an important part of an ecosystem?

Student Reflection "Students were most surprised to discover what breakfast would look like without pollinators. They knew that this was an issue that would challenge them in the future."

Teacher Reflection "Creating a realistic time line depends greatly upon your volunteers' assistance. It is imperative to get local support."

Lessons Learned "Planning with all parties involved would be very helpful."

Did Project Meet Goals? 5 out of 5 (Definitely would Recommend)

PBL Unpacked (on page 2)

As identified using "Unpack My PBL" within www.pblounge.org



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WANTS

NEEDS

Public Project

Performing: Demonstration/Performance
Interacting: Exhibit/Contest
Producing: Product (Bee Boxes)
Revising/Iterating: Execute Multiple Drafts
Presenting: Utilize Visuals

Media Produced

Tactile: Modeling Materials
Physical Drawings/Fine Arts: Painting (Canvas, Murals)

Real World Exploration

The Physical World: Animals, Pets & Wildlife
 Nature & Natural Resources
Humans in the World: Habitation & Population

Authentic Industries & People

Career & Technical: Agriculture & Agribusiness
 Education

Questions & Themes

Themes: Community Outreach
 Environmental

Project Parameters

Project Timeframe: 5-6 Weeks¹
of Project Members: Individual
 Pair
 Small Group
Grade Level: Middle School
Authentic Connections: Parents
 Community Members
 Industry Reps¹

Success Skills

Creativity: Brainstorm
 Design/Create
Collaboration: Develop Trust
 Encourage Others
 Ignore Distractions
 Incorporate Feedback
 Maximize Strengths of Team Members
 Work Fluidly to Meet Deadlines
Critical Thinking: Assemble Parts of a Whole
 Overcome Obstacles
Instilled Citizenship Values: Habits of Heart & Mind
 Express Empathy/Compassion
 Personal Responsibility
 Interact Respectfully In-person/Online
 Sense of Public Duty
 Civic Activities/Organizations
 Community Service
 Community & Public Issues
 Social Responsibility
 Lifestyle Respecting Environment

Areas of Knowledge & Understanding

Sciences: Biology
Sciences: Bio Sciences

Notes:

¹ Local Beekeeper's Association.

For [additional resources](#) provided with this PBL, follow links beneath the [What about the Bees?](#) thumbnail on the [Isle of Wight County Schools](#) page within www.pbllounge.org.

