



Frances S. Tucker K-8 Center
Summer Reading for Incoming 2nd Graders
(Current 1st grade students)

Book: Bee Dance Author: Rick Chrustowski

Summer Reading Assignment

Welcome to your summer reading project! This fun activity will help you learn more about bees and show your creativity with your new knowledge. After Reading the book choose **ONE** of the following to complete. Assignment will be collected during the first week of school for a grade.

Honey Taste Test & Writing Prompt

Activity: Try different types of honey (wildflower, clover, orange blossom, etc.) and write a sensory paragraph describing how each one tastes. The students will be able to connect reading to real-world experiences using descriptive language.

Suggested Materials: Small samples of different types of honey (e.g., wildflower, clover, orange blossom, buckwheat, etc.), napkins and water for palate cleansing, writing paper or notebook, pencil or pen.

Instructions to complete the project:

- **Honey Taste Test:** Label each honey sample clearly. Give students a chance to taste each honey, one at a time. Encourage them to **observe the color, texture, smell, and taste** of each one. Have them take notes using a sensory word bank (e.g., sweet, floral, earthy, thick, syrupy, tangy, golden).
- **Writing the prompt:** *"Pretend you are a bee returning to the hive after gathering nectar. Describe each type of honey you made to the queen bee and your fellow workers. Which flower did it come from? How does it taste? What kind of adventure did you have while collecting it?"*
- Students should write at least two sentences for each type of honey, focusing on Sensory details (sight, taste, smell, touch), Figurative language (similes, metaphors, personification), First-person voice (as the bee narrator).

Create Bee Life Cycle Craft

Activity: Students will demonstrate their understanding of the four stages in a bee's life (egg, larva, pupa, adult) through a labeled, tactile model. This hands-on activity integrates life science concepts with creative expression.

Suggested Materials: 1 sturdy paper plate, markers or crayons, glue, scissors, real-life materials for texture: yarn (larva stage), cotton balls (pupa), small beans or seeds (eggs), Paper cutout of a bee or bee sticker (adult stage)

Instructions to complete the project:

- **Divide the Plate:** Divide the plate into 4 equal sections (like quarters of a pie). In each section, students will draw and decorate one stage of the bee's life cycle: egg, larva, pupa, adult bee, add texture and labels: students will glue appropriate materials in each section.
- **Title and Decoration:** around the edge of the plate, students can write: "The Life Cycle of a Bee"

