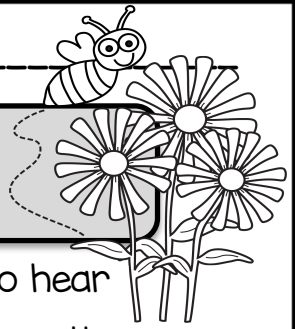


Name _____

Date _____



Buzzing Bees!

We know that summer is almost here when we start to hear those buzzing bees. Although many people are afraid of bees, they are very important to have around. Without them, we would not have honey and there would be less fruit and vegetable plants for us to eat.

In the warm weather, we see bees flying among the flowers looking for food. They are collecting nectar and spreading pollen. Nectar is a sweet, sticky liquid that bees use to make honey. Pollen is a powder made by some plants. As bees carry pollen from one flower to another, seeds begin to grow. This is called *pollination*. When a bee finds nectar or pollen, it does a dance for the other bees to let them know where to find the food.

As for those stinging bees, only female bees have stingers. They usually sting when they are trying to protect themselves or their hive. The most common bee, the honeybee, dies soon after stinging. That is because the stinger, which is attached to the bee's abdomen, gets pulled out of the bee's body after getting stuck in the victim's skin.

1. Why are bees important insects? _____

2. What is *pollination*? _____

3. What happens to a honeybee after it stings? _____
