Buzzing Bee

1. (BEE PLAY) - Incorporate into the Cheeto Activity described below. You will have access to signs that you can use to show the process to the students. There will be signs with each bee type, a nectar sign, pollen sign and honeycomb sign.

2. The worker bees gather their food called *nectar, the sweet, sugary fluid produced by flowers. Worker bees store it in a part of their body called the *honey sac.

3. In addition to nectar, bees collect *pollen. Pollen is the yellow-green powder-like substance that comes from flowers. Bees often carry *balls of pollen which stick to the stiff hairs on their legs. Bees collect pollen and nectar from flowers, but the flower gets something in return. Do you know what the flower gets? (Explain that flowers trade sweet nectar and protein-rich pollen in return for pollination and reproduction of the plant species.) Bees track pollen from flower to flower, which allows flowers to reproduce and grow.

- Cheeto Activity - Kids put a bee sticker on their hand and go grab a Cheeto out of the “flowers.” (These are flowers with cupcake liners in the middle). They can eat the Cheeto on their way to the flowers. Each student gets their own white paper flower (Handout Side #2) and they touch it with their Cheeto hands. They can see how pollen is transferred. They are basically pretending to be a bee, and this shows how pollen is transferred.

- Hand out HONEY PACKETS and then turn in the workbook: If they have extra time, work in their workbook, work on their maze, ask questions and tell stories or have them do the bee dance. The “bee dance” is a movement that bees use to communicate with each other; the instructions will be in the workbook provided to them. Pages 4 & 5