



## 7 BEE HOTEL

*We can help native bees find a hotel.*

PK–2ND GRADE

*Learn how bees can make their home in a bee hotel.*

### 1. GET STARTED

Show students the bee hotel and share that this is another place where bees live.

How do you think bees live here?

How does this structure look different from the apiary?

This hotel is designed for bees that live alone. They are different from the ones we saw in the apiary who live in a hive or big community. These bees are also pollinators and are very important to the health of the farm and the plants we grow.

### 2. DIVE IN

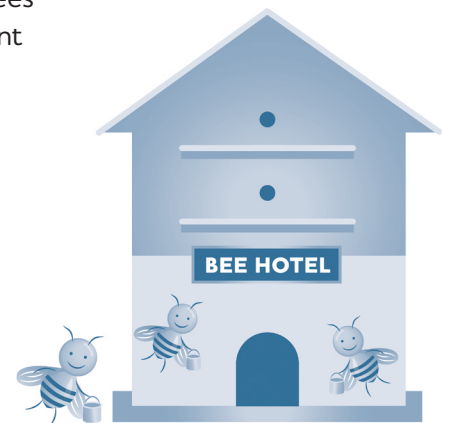
Look closely at the structure of the bee hotel which is constructed with a series of tubes or tunnels.

- ▶ Point out the tubes that make up the bee hotel.
- ▶ A solitary bee that ‘checks’ into the hotel will lay her egg in the tunnel on top of the pollen and nectar she has collected, and then seal it off with mud or leaves.
- ▶ She will then fill up the tunnel with additional eggs.
- ▶ When you see that the entrance is blocked off with mud or leaves, you know there are eggs inside.

- ▶ When the eggs hatch, they eat away at the pollen and nectar before emerging from the nest.
- ▶ Without touching the nest, count the number of cells that are capped in the tunnel.
- ▶ Bee hotels can come in different sizes and shapes and house different numbers of bees and their nests. Use the page in your resource book to draw a hotel that you think would attract native bees.

### 3. LEARN MORE

Bees are responsible for pollinating most of the fruits, vegetables, seeds and nuts that we eat so it is important to do what you can to save them. Watch the FoodPrints TV video on [Pollinators at Work](#) to learn more about the important role bees play. You can also plant a garden with bee friendly plants so they can find nutritious food sources or build a bee hotel for native bees.



### WHY IS THERE A BEE HOTEL AT THE JK COMMUNITY FARM?

The bees that come to the bee hotel are important to pollinating all of our plants and flowers. These solitary bees are much more effective pollinators than honeybees. Because of increased development in our area and across the region, native bees are now endangered. Our bee hotel helps our farm and helps sustain these critical insects.

# FIELD TRIP MAP

parking lot



1 HUMAN SUNDIAL

picnic tables



2 GREENHOUSES



3 RAISED BEDS



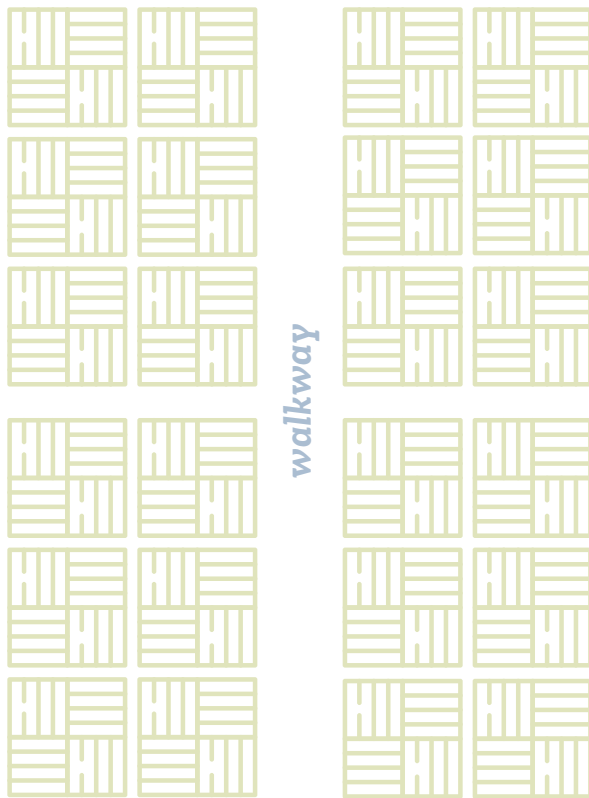
4 "APIARY" BEE HIVES



5 THREE TIER COMPOST SYSTEM



6 BLUEBIRD TRAIL STARTING POINT



7 BEE HOTEL



10 EDIBLE FLOWERS



9 SENSORY FOOTPATH



8 POLLINATOR HABITAT