



BEE NEWS

**BEES ARE IN TROUBLE.
LOTS OF HONEYBEES HAVE DIED AND
SOME WILD BEES ARE NOW RARE.**

Why are bees in danger?

People think the reasons are:

- 🐝 bee illnesses that spread from hive to hive
- 🐝 changes in how people use and farm the land (less different flowers, more chemical poisons),
- 🐝 changes in the weather.

Can we help?

Yes!

GROW LOTS OF FLOWERS

* Grow as many colourful, scented flowers as you can. Make sure that lots of different garden flowers are in bloom for as much of the year as possible.

* Ask grown ups to look after wild flowers too. Wild flowers are important for wild bees and honeybees.



Action for bees

MAKE A MASON BEE NEST



* Red mason bees live alone but are gentle and friendly, and really good at pollinating flowers. They lay their eggs in hollow tubes, add some pollen for food, and then seal each egg in safely with a plug of mud.

* You can leave hollow stems, or make holes in old wood for the bees. You can also make mason bee nests:

You need:

* Hollow bamboo sticks cut into sections, or

* Collect some hollow stems of different sizes, or

* Make hollow tubes by rolling up paper.

* Half a plastic drinks bottle or another cylinder-shaped container or some string.

What to do:

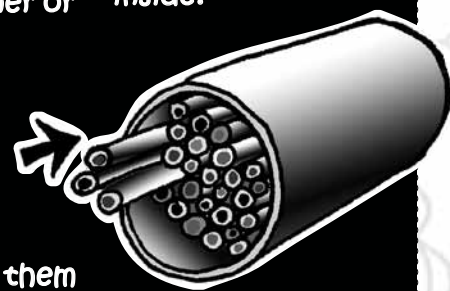
* Stuff the tubes into the cylinder, or tie them

together in a bundle

* Put the bee home on its side, pointing down very slightly so the bees don't get wet when it rains

* Fix or tie the bottle or bundle to a tree or wooden post in a warm place

Put out a clean or new bee nest early each spring to avoid diseases building up inside.



MAKE BUMBLEBEE NEST SITES

* Bumblebees like to nest low down in areas of dry, rough grass, moss, piles of dry sticks, dry earth banks and heaps of stones or sand in your garden. They usually like these places better than man-made bee boxes. Can you make a bee nesting area in your garden or school grounds?

