

## Find the bees

When the children find a message written on a beehive, they are eager to start looking for and talking about the missing bees! Use this activity to introduce new children to unfamiliar areas around the setting and encourage them to interact with each other.

### What you need

The bees from an enlarged photocopy of page 59, coloured and laminated; a lidded shoe box; scissors and glue (for adult use).

### What to do

- Tack the ten bees from page 59 around the setting for the children to find. Stand the shoe box on its end and glue

the photocopied picture of the hive to the box lid. Cut a slit in the top of the box to enable the bees to return to the hive.

- Show the children the hive and read the message together:

*Ten busy bees have buzzed away.*

*Can you find them all today?*

- Ask questions to build up

excitement and encourage the children to start talking:

- *What should we do?*
- *Where could we look?*
- *Do you think they have gone outside/down the corridor/under the tables?*
- Encourage discussion and cooperation as you search high and low for the bees. Keep count of how many bees you find and how many more are still missing. When all the

**Early communicators** begin to talk about the bees and where they might be hiding.

**More confident communicators** talk together as a group as they search for the bees.

bees are found, count them again and return them to the hive.

### Support and extension

- Ask questions and make suggestions to encourage younger children to talk as they search.

- Challenge older children to decide together as a group where to hide the bees and give clues about where to find them.

### Further activity

Involve children in simple addition and subtraction activities, using some or all of the bees. Fix, say, five bees to a drawing of a flower and then ask one child to hide two of the bees. How many bees are left? If one bee buzzes back, how many will there be?

### Home link

Teach the children this rhyme to share at home:

Here is the beehive.

*(Clench fist)*

Where are the bees?

Hiding inside where nobody sees.

Watch and see them

come out of the hive,

One, two, three, four, five.

*(Release fingers one at a time)*

### Learning objectives Language for Communication

- Initiate conversation, attend to and take account of what others say. **(CLL)**

### Early Learning Goal

- Interact with others, negotiating plans and activities and taking turns in conversation. **(CLL)**

### Cross-curricular links

#### Calculating

- Show an interest in number problems. **(PSRN)**

#### Early Learning Goal

- In practical activities and discussion, begin to use the vocabulary involved in adding and subtracting. **(PSRN)**