

English

Grade 7

Main idea and summary

Find what a text is mostly about and sum it up in a few sentences.



I can identify the main idea and write a short summary.



1



Why bees matter



Bees are small, but they do a very big job. When a bee visits a flower to collect nectar, pollen sticks to its body. At the next flower, some of that pollen rubs off, and this helps the plant make seeds and fruit.

About a third of the food we eat depends on pollinators like bees. Apples, almonds, strawberries and many vegetables would be much harder to grow without them.

Today many bee populations are shrinking because of pesticides, disease and the loss of wild flowers. People can help by planting flowers, avoiding chemical sprays and leaving some parts of their gardens wild.

2

**Pick the answer**

Circle the right answer.

1. What is the main idea of the text?

A Bees are important and need our help.

B Bees can sting.

C Almonds grow on trees.

2. What is the main idea of paragraph 3?

A Bees collect nectar.

B Bees are in danger, and people can help.

C Strawberries need sun.

3

**True or false**

Circle true or false.

1. Pollen helps plants make seeds and fruit.

True

False

2. Bees only matter for honey.

True

False

3. Leaving parts of a garden wild can help bees.

True

False

4

**Key words**

Draw a line from each word to its meaning.

☐

pollen



A. a sweet liquid inside flowers

☐

nectar



B. a chemical that kills insects

☐

pollinator



C. fine powder that helps plants make seeds

☐

pesticide



D. an animal that carries pollen between flowers

5



How pollination works

Number the steps 1 to 5 in the order they happen in paragraph 1.

☐

The bee flies to the next flower.

☐

A bee visits a flower to collect nectar.

☐

The plant can make seeds and fruit.

☐

Pollen sticks to its body.

☐

Some pollen rubs off.

6



Problem or solution?

Use paragraph 3. Write each item in the right column.

pesticides

planting flowers

disease

avoiding chemical sprays

loss of wild flowers

leaving parts of the garden wild

Why bees are in danger

How people can help

7

**Main idea or detail?**

Circle the right answer.

1. What is the main idea of paragraph 2?

A Much of our food depends on bees and other pollinators.

B Strawberries are red.

C Bees live in hives.

2. About how much of the food we eat depends on pollinators?

A all of it

B about a third

C almost none

3. 'Apples, almonds and strawberries need pollinators' is ...

A the main idea of the text

B a supporting detail

C the conclusion

4. Which key word fits paragraph 1 best?

A pollen

B pesticides

C almonds

8

**Finish the summary**

Use the word bank to complete the summary.

WORD BANK

flowers

fruit

pollen

shrinking

third

1. Bees carry _____ from flower to flower.

2. This helps plants make seeds and _____.

3. About a _____ of our food depends on pollinators.

4. Many bee populations are _____.

5. People can help by planting _____.

9



Think and write

Summarise the text in no more than three sentences.

How did it go?



Made with 

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Answer key

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Today many bee populations are shrinking because of pesticides, disease and the loss of wild flowers. People can help by planting flowers, avoiding chemical sprays and leaving some parts of their gardens wild.

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True

False

4

**Key words**

Draw a line from each word to its meaning.

C

pollen

**A**

nectar

**D**

pollinator

**B**

pesticide



A. a sweet liquid inside flowers

B. a chemical that kills insects

C. fine powder that helps plants make seeds

D. an animal that carries pollen between flowers

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How pollination works

Number the steps 1 to 5 in the order they happen in paragraph 1.

3

The bee flies to the next flower.

1

A bee visits a flower to collect nectar.

5

The plant can make seeds and fruit.

2

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Problem or solution?

Use paragraph 3. Write each item in the right column.

pesticides

planting flowers

disease

avoiding chemical sprays

loss of wild flowers

leaving parts of the garden wild

Why bees are in danger

pesticides, disease, loss of wild flowers

How people can help

planting flowers, avoiding chemical sprays,
leaving parts of the garden wild

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WORD BANK

flowers

fruit

pollen

shrinking

third

1. Bees carry **pollen** from flower to flower.

2. This helps plants make seeds and **fruit**.

3. About a **third** of our food depends on pollinators.

4. Many bee populations are **shrinking**.

5. People can help by planting **flowers**.

9



Think and write

Summarise the text in no more than three sentences.

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