

# 15-minute Family STEAM: Bee Pollination



## Supplies Provided:

Yellow Pom Poms  
Craft Sticks  
Black pipe cleaner  
Construction Paper  
Cheese puffs  
Small Round Container

## Supplies Needed From Home:

Scissors

**Make your bee.** Take 2 yellow pom poms and stick them close together near the tip of your craft stick. Next, take a black pipe cleaner and cut it in half with your scissors. Take 1 of your halves and place it between the 2 pom poms and place the other half of the pipe cleaner at the rear of the 2 pom poms. You will then want to twist the 2 pipe cleaners around the stick so they will stay attached. Then, shape them into 4 bee legs.

**Make your flower.** Take your colorful pieces of paper and your scissors to cut out 2 large flower shaped pieces. Once you have your 2 flowers, place a small round container on each of them. The container and lid will act as the pistil, or center, of your flower.

**Make the "pollen".** Put your Cheese Balls onto the round container. Using your hands, begin to crush them up into little flakes. Continue to do this until they look like little particles of pollen.

Take your bee and have them dip their legs into the round container full of pollen.



## **What is pollen & pollination?**

Pollen is a powdery substance found inside a flower. The stamen produces pollen so the plant can make seeds. Pollination is the spreading of pollen from flower to flower. Most plants need pollen from another plant to make seeds. Some animals help plants by transferring pollen as they go from plant to plant.

Animals that move pollen are called pollinators. Bees, bats, hummingbirds, and butterflies are pollinators. They visit flowers to get nectar, a sugary liquid made by flowers.

While the animals are feeding, pollen from the flower sticks to their leg hairs. Pollen is then transferred to the next plant the animal feeds from. Honey bees have special baskets on their back legs for carrying pollen.

Both the animal and the plant benefit from pollination. The animal gets food and the plants are able to make more seeds.



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