



LET'S TAKE CARE OF HONEYBEES!

INTRODUCTION

In this Open Learning Scenario, the students are going to realise the importance of bees as pollinators for the food system, identify honeybees from other types, observe the environment near the bees, make conclusions about the plants honeybees prefer and create a bee hotel (in urban environment)

THE ISSUE

1. Watch the video with your students.
2. Ask your students which the issues are being addressed in the video.
3. Ask your students if they ever think about the importance of bees as pollinators.
4. Discuss with the students if they are aware of the impact to the environment/food system if bees will extinct.

INTO THE COMMUNITY

5. Take your students to a local park.
6. Ask half of the classroom to take notes of the environment around bees (see worksheet).
7. Ask the other half of the classroom to talk to honey producers regarding challenges that bees are under.
8. Back to the classroom, ask students to discuss the findings based on the analysed produce and on the interviews.

THE CO-CREATION PROCESS

9. Discuss with students which actors they could consult in order to help them come up with actions they could do in order to support bees not to extinct.
10. Help student to invite the identified societal actors for a co-creation event about the importance of saving the bees.

AIMS

- To identify the importance of bees as pollinators for all food products
- To raise awareness among the school and local community (particularly in urban environments) about the importance of bees as pollinators and challenges for their extinction

SOCIETAL ACTORS

- Honey producers
- NGO about bees' protection

KEYWORDS

bees, honeybees, pollinators, biodiversity

AGE RANGE

- 10-12 years old

SUBJECTS

- Biology
- Citizenship / Civic Participation

TOPICS

Citizenship / Civic Participation:

Sustainable development

Biology: Biology of insects, bee, biodiversity, study of the environment

11. Organize the co-creation event to take place in the school space, guaranteeing it is an informal moment where the students have the same voice as any other participant.
12. During the co-creation event, discuss the impacts bees extinction and possible solutions to support their population.

THE (SUGGESTED) SOLUTION

13. One solution for the problem is to develop an awareness campaign in students' neighbourhoods about supporting bees (planting the plants/herbs they prefer in gardens/balconies).
14. A prototype for a bee hotel in the school garden; Planting climbing bee plants and wildflowers in school hedges for off-seasons).
15. Help students test the prototype bee hotel with representatives of the target audience to find out if there needs to be changes or improvements.
16. After developing the final version of the prototype, distribute guidelines among local people for creating bee hotels /planting herbs in their balconies & school gardens.

Carry out responsible citizenship interventions (feasible and substantiated) aimed at preventing/minimizing/remedy the problem under study

SUSTAINABILITY COMPETENCES

- Valuing the environment
- Collaborating and connecting
- Critical thinking
- Developing creative solutions

SET-UP

- The first part of the activity is developed outside school, on a local park
- The rest of the activity can be developed in school context

MATERIALS

- Camera or cell phone
- Registration form (with columns for Day of Observation, Season, Temperature, Water, Type of plant)
- Interview forms (with questions selected by the students)