The Thing About Bees

Story Summary
The Thing About Bees is a love poem from a father to his two sons. Inspired by his fear of bees, Shabazz Larkin, not wanting to pass this fear to his sons, writes a tribute to bees that pollinate the foods we love to eat. Children are introduced to different kinds of bees, “how not to get stung,” and how the things we fear are often things we don’t fully understand.

Activity Ideas

Make Pollination Cards
Provide some information and have children fill in the rest.

Fact Cards
Create bee fact cards.

Drawing and Writing
Draw a picture and write a story about a fear that you are going to overcome.

Additional activities can be found in the following pages of this document.
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*The Thing About Bees* is a love poem from a father to his two sons. Inspired by his fear of bees, Shabazz Larkin, not wanting to pass this fear to his sons, writes a tribute to bees that pollinate the foods we love to eat. Children are introduced to different kinds of bees, “how not to get stung,” and how the things we fear are often things we don’t fully understand.

What is *The Things About Bees* about?

_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________

What are you afraid of?

_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________

What does it mean to be brave?

_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________

Have you ever been stung by a bee?

_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________

Do you believe love will conquer fear?

_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
### The Thing About Bees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Question</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0:29</td>
<td>What does it mean to be fearless?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:06</td>
<td>Do you know someone who is fearless?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30</td>
<td>What do you know about bees?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:14</td>
<td>How can you sting people when you are in a bad mood?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:40</td>
<td>These are examples of metaphors—making comparisons without using like or as. Can you write a metaphor about yourself?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:01</td>
<td>What will you do to be brave?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:05</td>
<td>Have you ever seen any of these pollinators at work?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:21</td>
<td>Which bee or wasp do you find most interesting? Why?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:37</td>
<td>What will you do to save the bees?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Are you afraid of bees now?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### After viewing the Book:

1. How many fruits and vegetables can you think of that grow from a flower and need pollination?
2. What would you miss the most if there were no bees?
3. What things did you learn about bees from the story?
Drawing and Writing

Draw yourself as a bee and write all the ways you are like a bee.

I am like a bee because

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________.
"Some foods won’t grow without bees to help them along."
Circle all of the foods that will not grow without the help of bees.

TURTLE  CHERRIES  WATERMELON
HAT  MANGOES  BLUEBERRIES
STRAWBERRIES  RASBERRIES
AVOCADOS  APPLES  CARS
PENCIL  CUCUMBERS
# Bees KWL Chart

Make a KWL chart about bees.

1. Write down what you already **know** about bees.
2. What do you **want** to learn about bees.
3. Research to find the answers to your question and write down what you **learned**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Bees</th>
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</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What I <strong>Know</strong></th>
<th>What I <strong>Want to Know</strong></th>
<th>What I <strong>Learned</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>