

Africanized Honey Bee Activity Sheet

HONEY BEES...

THEY ARE WORTH LEARNING ABOUT



European honey bee facts:

- Most Florida honey bees are the gentle European type
 - Honey bees are very important to agriculture
 - They buzz around spreading nectar from plant to plant which helps make the foods we love to eat, like watermelons, blueberries, strawberries and nuts
 - When you see bees flying around plants, chances are they are doing their jobs. If you don't bother them, they won't bother you
- However, the European honey bee has a grumpy cousin, the Africanized honey bee, who is not so nice and you should learn how to avoid them

AFRICANIZED HONEY BEES . . .

BEE AWARE . . . LOOK, LISTEN, AND RUN

Africanized honey bee facts:

- Look almost like the more common gentle European honey bees
- Defend their homes or hives if they feel threatened
- Pollinate, but not so well, because they move away often
- Africanized honey bees are like many other Florida insects that can cause harm, such as fire ants and yellow jacket wasps



What can you do to avoid being stung?

- The most important thing you can do is BE AWARE of your surroundings
- Stay alert when playing and making noise outdoors
- Look for bees before you or your family use noisy toys or tools
- Walk away and stay away if you see an insect nest or a lot of bees
- Tell an adult to call a pest control company to remove nest
- Be careful around possible nesting sites such as wood piles, bird houses, flower pots, and barbecue grills (see activity sheet on back)



What to do if chased by bees?

- Run away fast and get inside a house or building
- Tell an adult to call a pest control company to remove nest
- If stung, have adult remove stinger by scraping it out with a fingernail or card – squeezing the stinger will make it hurt more
- If someone who has been stung doesn't feel good, call 911 for medical help



Make your home safe

- Respect all bees and insects. Notify an adult if you find a nest
- Ask an adult to remove possible nesting sites (see activity sheet on back)

WHERE BEES MIGHT BE

Africanized Honey Bee Activity Sheet

Africanized honey bees are not very picky when it comes to selecting a nesting site. Below is an illustration that contains some of the places bees might choose to make their home. List as many places as you can find in the picture below where bees may make their homes. For more information call 888-397-1517 or visit www.fl-dpi.com.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____



wheel barrows
mail boxes
water meters

grills
under picnic tables/benches
bird houses

Possible Answers for WHERE BEES MIGHT LIVE?
trees
air conditioners
flower pots
under porches
wood piles
rain gutters
attics
chimneys