

# BOOK OF THE MONTH:

## Betsy Buglove Saves the Bees

by Catherine Jacob and Lucy Fleming

Ages: 4-8 years old

### 1. Introducing the Book:



#### Exploring the Cover

*\*When presenting the book, be sure to highlight its title and to share the names of the author and illustrator!*

Meet the character of the book, Betsy. She loves bees and other insects. What is the tool she is using while looking among the flowers? Can you spot any bees on the cover of this book? What do bees make that is sweet and sticky?

#### Building Background

Take a walk outside together. If you have a magnifying glass, bring it with you to be able to see bees and other insects more closely. As you walk, find and identify as many insects as you can. When trying to identify bees, look out for their yellow and black stripes. Be attentive - there are other insects that look similar to bees, such as wasps and flies. Be cautious as the bees could sting.

### 2. Reading the Book:

#### Interactive Reading

As you read the book, ask the children the following questions and discuss:

- Why did the bees ask Betsy for help? What happens to bees if there are no flowers?
- What was the reason Stan didn't want to play outside? How did Betsy help Stan change his mind?
- On the last page of the book, there are a few examples of things we can do to help the bees. Let's name a few ideas. How do they help the bees and other insects?

### 3. After Reading the Book: Bee Bath



- Learning about the natural world;

- Practicing memory skills;



- Developing a sense of responsibility;
- Learning empathy through actions.



Photo: gardentherapy.ca

Materials:

- Shallow dish (ceramic or glass)
- Pebbles/marbles/corks

Bees get thirsty too! Set up a bee bath in your garden/on your balcony/outside. Place a few pebbles in a shallow dish and fill it with just enough water to leave the tops of the stones uncovered for the bees to land on safely. Choose a shady spot to set up the bath. Don't forget to change the water daily and clean the bath once a week.

#### Wildflower Walk



- Exercising by walking;
- Engaging in healthy practices;



- Learning by observing the environment;
- Practicing decision-making.

Materials:

- Wildflower seed mix
- Empty salt shaker(s)

Together with the children, fill one/some empty salt shakers with wildflower seeds. You can decorate the shaker(s) with bee or flower designs. When you walk outside, use the shaker(s) to sprinkle wildflower seeds in places that need some color and life - empty patches of soil and flower beds, in parks and alleyways. You can revisit the same route in 2-3 weeks to see if any of the flowers sprouted.

#### References and Resources

The Bee Conservancy - Activities for kids

#### Legend



Cognitive



Socio-emotional



Language



Physical