



HIGHLANDS BIOLOGICAL FOUNDATION

Week 5

Nearby Nature – Pollinators

Monday 4/13

When you think about pollinators, do honeybees come to mind? That seems to be the case for many people, but there are several other kinds of pollinators that are also vital to plant reproduction. Watch the video below from the [North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences](#) for today's #NearbyNature to learn about why pollinators are important and to see a few of the many insect pollinators that you may find outside this spring. Then, draw a picture of your favorite pollinator and share it with us! 🐝🌻

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kYjjMc7OnDY&feature=youtu.be>

Tuesday 4/14

We're throwing it back to our 2016 "Pollination in the Highlands Plateau" video for today's #NearbyNature ! This video includes great animations illustrating what pollination is and how it occurs. It also delves into some of the key factors that account for the great biodiversity of the Plateau.

Video: <https://www.facebook.com/highlandsbiologicalstation/videos/10153492414307549/>

After you watch the video, we encourage you to get outside and look for some pollinators! Pick a flowering plant nearby and observe it for 10 minutes or so. How many different pollinators visit it? Keep track using this Life Lab pollinator tally sheet: <https://www.lifelab.org/2020/03/pollinator-observation/>

Wednesday 4/15

Post 1:

Looking for a fun activity for the whole family?? Homemade flower seed bombs are not just fun, they are also a great way to support your local pollinators! Follow the instructions in the link below to make your seed bombs for today's #NearbyNature and play a part in making sure pollinators get the resources they need to survive. Be sure to use seeds of flowering plants that are native to your region. 🌸🌻🌿🐝

Share your final seed bombs with us!

<https://thehomespunhydrangea.com/how-to-make-homemade-flow.../>

Post 2:

Gather the family around and enjoy this reading of *Bea's Bees* by author Katherine Pryor! She wrote this book to help kids understand that they can also be a part of helping the bees 🐝🐝🐝 #NearbyNature

Video: <http://ow.ly/G26h50zeXrb>

If you're feeling inspired, you can use this resource from the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences to learn about 5 easy ways you and your family can help pollinators in your own backyard:

<http://ow.ly/Hg7u50zeXra>

#NationalGardenMonth

Thursday 4/16

#NearbyNature When you think of bees, do you picture them living in large beehives? Most native bees nest in the ground and some nest in natural cavities like dead plant stems.

You can help support native bee populations and encourage the reproduction of native plants in your yard by providing man-made nesting blocks, or “Bee Condos” like the ones Leah Purvis, former HBS IE student, constructed for the Station in 2017 (shown below).

They don't have to be complex to be effective! You can simply hang a bundle of paper straws or small hollow sticks with one end sealed in a warm place protected from rain.

Check out this U.S. Forest Service link for more info. on how to build your very own Bee Condos and where to place them:

<https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflow.../kids/activities/beebox.shtml>



Friday 4/17

This week's #NearbyNature included videos, activities, and resources all about #pollinators . Want to know more about pollinators in your region and what you can do to aide in their survival? Go on a FREE virtual Pollinator Quest with the [Captain Planet Foundation](https://www.herofortheplanet.org/) 's place-based online curriculum where learners design solutions for problems affecting their community and help their local pollinators thrive! 🌻🐝🌻🌻🌻🌻🌻🌻

Be Pollinator Heroes and begin your quest here! : <https://herofortheplanet.org/pollinators/#planeteers>

#CitizenScienceMonth #EarthMonth #NationalGardenMonth