



Bee Riddles



31 riddles from easy to tricky. Write your answer on the line. Answers are on the last page.

Easy riddles ★

- 1 I wear yellow and black stripes, I fly from flower to flower all day, and I help make something sweet. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 2 Bees make me from the nectar of flowers. I'm golden, sticky and sweet, and if I'm sealed up well I can last for thousands of years without going bad. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 3 I'm home to tens of thousands of bees, all working together. Some of me are hollow trees; others are wooden boxes built by people. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 4 I give bees sweet nectar and dusty pollen, and in return the bees help me make seeds. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 5 I'm the sharp point at the back end of a bee. Only female bees have me. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 6 I'm the longest bee in the hive and the mother of nearly all the others. In summer, I can lay up to 2,000 eggs in a single day. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 7 I wear a veil over my face and puff cool smoke at the hive to keep the bees calm, then I carefully take some honey. Who am I?

ANSWER _____

- 8 I'm made of wax and full of little six-sided rooms. Bees store honey in me and raise their babies in me. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 9 I'm a bee that never flies, never stings and never makes honey, but I can make a whole classroom nervous. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 10 What do you call a bee that can't make up its mind?

ANSWER _____

Medium riddles ★★

- 11 I'm big, round and fuzzy, and unlike a honeybee I can sting more than once. I can even shake pollen out of tomato flowers by buzzing on them. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 12 Bees can't talk. So how does a worker tell her sisters exactly how far away the best flowers are, and in which direction?

ANSWER _____

- 13 I'm fine yellow dust that sticks to a bee's fuzzy body. Bees pack me into little baskets on their back legs and fly me home. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 14 I'm a male bee. I have no stinger, I don't collect any food, and when autumn comes my sisters push me out of the hive. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 15 All of us are female. We clean the hive, guard the door, build wax, feed the babies and fly out for food, and in summer we only live for about six weeks. What are we?

ANSWER _____

- 16 Every baby bee gets a taste of me, but only a future queen is fed me for her whole life. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 17 How many eyes does a honeybee have?

ANSWER _____

- 18 A bee carries pollen from one flower to another, and because of that the plant can make seeds and fruit. What is this called?

ANSWER _____

- 19 Thousands of bees leave their hive at once with the old queen, then hang in a buzzing ball on a branch while scouts search for a new home. What is this called?

ANSWER _____

- 20 Bees make me from tiny flakes that come out of their bellies. People melt me down to make candles and lip balm. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 21 I'm the sound a bee makes, but I don't come out of its mouth. I come from wings beating about 200 times a second. What am I?

ANSWER _____

Tricky riddles ★★★

- 22 A worker bee makes about one-twelfth of a teaspoon of honey in her whole life. How many worker bees does it take to make one teaspoon?

ANSWER _____

23 In the 1920s, if someone called you "the bee's knees", were they insulting you or complimenting you?

ANSWER _____

24 Bees can see a color that people can't, but one color that people see easily looks dark to a bee. Name both colors.

ANSWER _____

25 Why do bees build six-sided cells instead of round or square ones?

ANSWER _____

26 Most of the world's 20,000 kinds of bees never live in a hive, never make honey and never have a queen. How do they live?

ANSWER _____

27 In winter there are no flowers at all. How do honeybees stay alive and warm until spring?

ANSWER _____

28 What does a mother bee say when her kids won't stop buzzing around the house?

ANSWER _____

29 I'm a sticky glue that bees make from tree resin. They use me to seal cracks in the hive and keep germs out. What am I?

ANSWER _____

30 Why do bees hum?

ANSWER _____

31 A queen bee lays one egg every minute, without a break, for a whole day. Does she reach 2,000 eggs?

ANSWER _____

Answers

Bee Riddles · answer key · print or fold this page away before you hand out the sheet

1. A honeybee
2. Honey
3. A beehive
4. A flower
5. A stinger
6. The queen bee
7. A beekeeper
8. A honeycomb
9. A spelling bee
10. A maybe
11. A bumblebee
12. She does the waggle dance, wiggling in a figure-eight pattern inside the hive.
13. Pollen
14. A drone
15. Worker bees
16. Royal jelly
17. Five. Two big compound eyes on the sides of its head, and three small simple eyes on top.
18. Pollination
19. A swarm
20. Beeswax
21. A buzz
22. 12 bees
23. Complimenting you. It meant you were excellent.
24. Bees can see ultraviolet, but red looks dark to them.
25. Hexagons fit together with no gaps and hold the most honey for the least wax.
26. Alone. Most bees are solitary bees that nest by themselves in the ground, in hollow stems or in holes in wood.
27. They huddle together in a tight ball, shiver their flight muscles to make heat, and eat the honey they stored in summer.
28. "Bee-have!"
29. Propolis
30. Because they don't know the words!
31. No. A day has only 1,440 minutes, so that's 1,440 eggs. A queen at her peak lays faster than one a minute.

Need a hint? Every riddle has one at riddlepedia.com/bee-riddles/, where you can also play them as a game.