

Try one of our fa-BEE-lous, fun activities:

# Spelling Bee

TRY to BEE  
the best!

Separate  
Bee-fact from  
Bee-fiction!

## BEE-lieve it or NOT!

# Bee-Dazzled Flowerpot

BEE  
Creative!

A fun  
way to  
learn about  
the benefits  
of bees!



cleanwater  
PROGRAM



Yeah! We're  
awesome!

TRY TO BEE  
THE BEST!

# Spelling Bee

## First, gather the contestants!

Use the following to get your children (or your sisters and brothers) excited to play. Or make up your own!

1. How would you like to be part of my spelling beeee? [Exaggerate the word “bee” so people get the pun.]
2. Have you heard the buzzzz? We’re holding a spelling beeee!
3. Are you the bee’s knees at spelling? If so, join the game!
4. Join the spelling beeee! It’s eazzzy beeezzzy.
5. [Your idea here!]

## Spelling Bee Rules

1. Announce the word to be spelled. Use the word in a sentence, if possible, and say the word again.
2. The speller can ask for the word to be repeated if necessary.
3. When the speller is sure they understand the word, pronounces it, spells it and then says the word again. The speller must say it loudly enough for the judge to hear it. For example, if you gave the word “apple,” the speller would say “Apple. A-P-P-L-E. Apple.”
4. Determine whether or not the word was spelled correctly.
5. If the correct spelling was given, the speller remains in the game.
6. If the spelling was incorrect, that speller is eliminated from the game and the judge gives the correct spelling of that word. Then, the pronouncer reads a new word to the next player.
7. When there are only two spellers left, if one player misspells a word, the other player must spell that word correctly, plus one more word to be declared the winner of the spelling bee.

[Source: [spelling-words-well.com](http://spelling-words-well.com)]

## Ways to Play the Game:

- Make teams: multiple children or adults play against each other.
- Have children play against their parents.



# Spelling BEE Word Lists

## Adults & Older Children

1. Honey
2. Pollinate
3. Burrow
4. Pesticide
5. Herbicide
6. Landscaping
7. Unintended
8. Organic
9. Toxicity
10. Biodegrade
11. Pollution
12. Aphid
13. Beneficial
14. Stormwater
15. Healthy
16. Compost
17. Wildlife
18. Carnivorous
19. Lawn
20. Ladybug
21. Swarm
22. Proboscis
23. Antenna
24. Mandibles
25. Thorax

## Younger Children

1. Bees
2. Nest
3. Queen
4. Plant
5. Flower
6. Weed
7. Garden
8. Grass
9. Hive
10. Bloom
11. Grow
12. Bay
13. Spray
14. Snail
15. Slug
16. Bug
17. Safe
18. Soil
19. Mulch
20. Fish
21. Bird
22. Sting

## “Stingers”

These are words you can use to end a spelling round. These are good to give an adult competing with a child to help the child win.

1. **Apis mellifera** [Definition: species name for a honeybee]
2. **Bacillus thuringiensis**  
[Definition for those who are curious: a live microorganism that kills certain insects and is used to kill unwanted insects in forests, agriculture, and urban areas. “B.T.” is toxic to mammals and can have serious negative ecological impacts.]
3. **Chlorothalonil**  
[Definition: a fungicide that can cause serious health effects in humans including kidney and liver damage. It has been classified as a “probable human carcinogen” by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.\*]
4. **Pentachlorophenol**  
[Definition: an herbicide used on ornamental lawns and golf courses, among other places. Exposure to “penta” has also been associated with human blood disorders, peripheral neuropathy and other problems related to nerve damage. Nearly all of us have some level of penta in our blood.]
5. **Mecoprop MCP**  
[is a common lawn care herbicide. It is typically sold in products that are combinations of several related herbicides and as “weed and feed” products. Symptoms of exposure to mecoprop include burning skin and eyes, nausea, dizziness, and headaches.]
6. **Fipronil**  
[Definition: Fipronil is a relatively new insecticide used in cockroach baits and gels, flea products for pets, ant baits and gels and termite control products, among others. Symptoms of exposure to fipronil include headache, nausea, dizziness, weakness, and sometimes eye irritation and eye injury. In pets, poisoning symptoms include irritation, lethargy, incoordination, and convulsions.]

\*Source: Journal of Pesticide Reform



# BEE-lieve it or NOT!

SEPARATE BEE-FACT  
FROM BEE-FICTION!

## Select a Host and one or more Contestants.

**Hosts:** Feel free to use your best “Game Show Host” persona, complete with a corny emphasis on “BEE” in “BEE-LIEVE it or Not?” Ask your contestants the questions and see if they guess correctly.

You can give out prizes or just have fun. Be creative!

### 1. All bees have black and yellow stripes. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?

NOT! Bees actually come in a wide range of colors. For example, some are metallic green.

### 2. When a bee visits a flower, the pollen adheres to her because she is sticky from honey residues. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?

NOT! The reason that bees can pick up pollen is that most bees are furry and carry an electrostatic charge, which helps the pollen stick.

### 3. Bees’ nests have their own air conditioning. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?

BEE-LIEVE IT! Bees provide their own air conditioning for the nest. To cool their house down, the worker bees stand inside the entrance to the nest and fan their wings.

### 4. Almost a third of our daily diet comes from crops pollinated by bees. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?

BEE-LIEVE IT! Without bees there would be very few fruits, vegetables or seeds.

### 5. All bees live in large colonies in hives. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?

NOT! Only the social honeybee builds and lives in hives, along with the rest of the colony. Most other bee species are solitary, and burrow in soil to build their nests.

### 6. To produce one teaspoon of honey, 12 worker bees have to work all their lives. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?

BEE-LIEVE IT! The average worker bee produces only about 1/12th teaspoon of honey in its lifetime (about 6 weeks).

### 7. The venom of the African killer bee is more potent than that of a European honeybee. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?

NOT! The venom of both species is equally potent, but killer bees are more likely to attack a perceived threat, and in larger numbers.

### 8. Bees can only collect nectar and pollen during the day. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?

NOT! Several bee species are nocturnal and pollinate flowers that open in the evening or at nighttime, such as evening primrose and many desert plants.

### 9. When a honeybee has found a source of flowers, it tells the rest of the colony exactly where it is located. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?

BEE-LIEVE IT! Back in the hive the honeybee performs a dance that shows the other bees the direction to the flower source.

### 10. Bees have such a good sense of smell that they are used to detect explosives. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?

BEE-LIEVE IT! Bees’ keen sense of smell can distinguish between hundreds of different floral varieties and even tell their distance. Scientists are indeed training bees to sniff out bombs.

### 11. All bees make honey. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?

NOT! Only honeybees make enough honey to harvest. Bumblebees make only a tiny amount, and many other bees don’t make any honey at all.



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**12. There are about 10,000 bee species on Earth. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?**

NOT! There are actually a lot more known species of bees, around 20,000! Bees are found on every continent except Antarctica.

**13. There are about 1,500 different bee species in California. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?**

BEE-LIEVE IT! There are indeed 1,500 bee species in California, ranging from the giant carpenter bee to a tiny bee called Andrena.

**14. There are about 50 known bee species in the East Bay region of the San Francisco Bay Area. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?**

NOT! There are more. To date, UC Berkeley's urban bee project has found 81 bee species in the East Bay region and expects the number to increase well beyond 100.

**15. A honeybee queen can lay up to 1,000 eggs per day. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?**

NOT! During the summer, the hive's busiest time, the queen bee lays up to 2,500 eggs per day.

**16. A honeybee can fly as fast as 15 miles per hour. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?**

BEE-LIEVE IT! A honeybee can indeed fly that fast, and can strike its wings about 200 beats per second.

**17. Honey wine, or mead, is the first alcoholic drink brewed by man, earlier than wine or beer. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?**

BEE-LIEVE IT! The earliest archaeological evidence for the production of mead dates to the Stone Age, around 7000 BC. Scientists speculate that mead could have been produced by chance when honey became wet from rain and wild yeast in the air settled into the mixture.

**18. Bees die after they sting you. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?**

NOT! Only honeybees die after stinging because their stingers are barbed and tear off when they try to get away, ripping the bee apart. Other bees have smooth stingers and can sting over and over again!

**19. The largest known bees are about 1.5" in length. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?**

BEE-LIEVE IT! The largest known bee, the leaf cutter bee, can attain a length of 1.5". The carpenter bee is also quite large, about the size of a small pecan.

**20. The smallest known bees are the size of ants. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?**

BEE-LIEVE IT! Several bee species known as mining bees are only a few millimeters long and look more like winged ants than bees.

**21. Spraying pesticides to kill ants doesn't harm bees. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?**

NOT! Pesticides used to kill pests can harm beneficial insects like bees and ladybugs.

**22. Pesticides sprayed in your garden or in your home can end up in the Bay. BEE-LIEVE IT OR NOT?**

BEE-LIEVE IT! Because rain washes pesticides off the ground and into the storm drains found on your street, the pesticides can travel from your home to the Bay.

Source:

<http://nature.berkeley.edu/urbanbeegardens>  
(Urban Bee Gardens)



# Bee-Dazzled Flowerpot

BEE  
Creative!

## Shelter-In-Place Earth Day 2020 Edition

If you have any plain terra cotta or plastic flowerpots, Celebrate Earth Day 2020 with this DIY craft. Simply use whatever decorative materials you can find at home--don't make a special trip to the store.

### Supplies

#### Flowerpots:

Terracotta or plastic

#### Glues:

Glue dots

Hot glue

### Ideas for Decorative Elements

Paints

Metallic paint pens

Colored paint pens

Self-adhesive foam shapes and stickers

Ribbons

Raffia

Buttons

Rhinestones and other faux gems

Pipe cleaners

Sticks

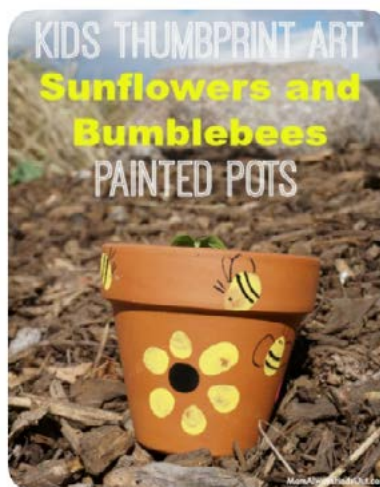
Popsicle sticks

Old Silverware or plastic utensils

Googly eyes

### Bee Creative!

Here are some ideas to get you started. Don't worry if you don't have black and yellow paint--just bee-dazzle your flowerpot, your way, with what you have on hand. This is the time to BEE creative, by using up existing supplies to reduce waste and pollution, and protect creeks, wetlands, the Bay —and the Bee!



<http://claypotcrafts.com/clay-pot-bumble-bee-ornaments-and-planters/>



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/63543044731421401/>