



In this activity, you are going to explore the life cycle of a bee! Bees are essential pollinators that pollinate flowers, which help us grow fruits and vegetables. This happens by bees flying from flower to flower searching for nectar. As they land on a flower, the pollen sticks to the bee bringing the pollen with it to other flowers. The pollen then goes onto the next flower the bee goes to, pollinating it. By flying flower to flower spreading pollen, it helps the flower reproduce. Without pollinators like bees, plants would not be able to grow, possibly including your favorite plants like strawberries, pumpkins, or tomatoes.

Since bees are so important to our planet, we are going to learn how they grow and become bees, as you see in your yard and community.

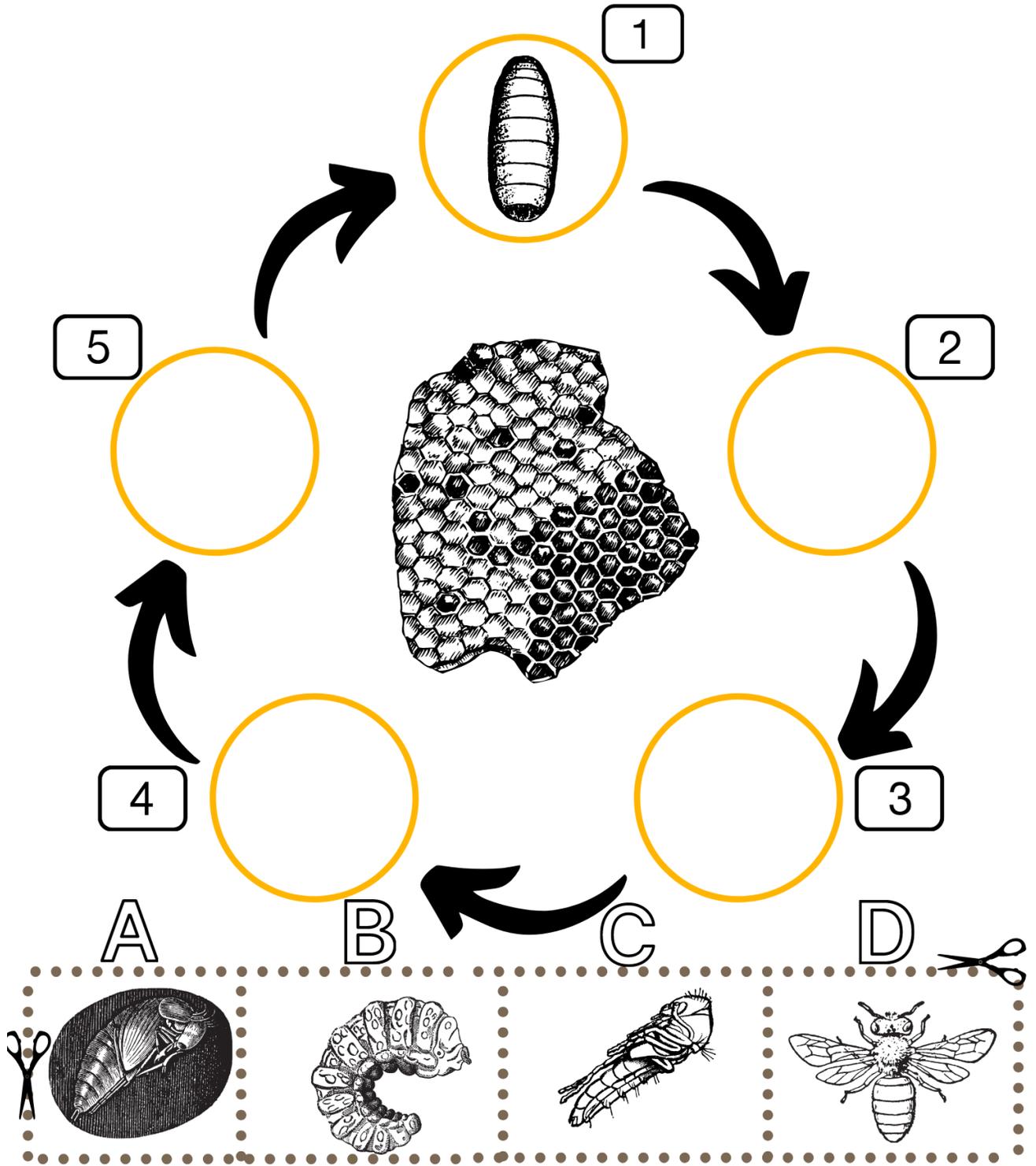
### Materials

- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Bee Life Cycle sheet on the second page

### Instructions

1. Cut out the four bee life stages at the bottom of the Bee Life Cycle worksheet.
2. Color the pictures and add any designs that you would like. Get creative!
3. Put the pictures into the correct order.
  - a. #1 begins with an egg and #5 is the final stage of the bee
4. Check your answers on the back of the page before pasting to see if you are correct.

# BEE LIFE CYCLE



## Answers

- #2= B

This stage is called the larva state. This phase begins around three days after the queen lays the egg. In this stage of the life cycle, the bees begin to develop from being an egg into having a more distinct shape. The larva is white and can have small ridges formed. This stage takes around ten days.

- #3=A

This is of the live cycle called the pupa phase. It has been separated into two parts. The first part takes around 4 days after the larva stage. At this stage, the eyes, legs, and wings begin to form.

- #4=C

This stage is the second half of the pupa phase. In this stage, the coloration begins with the eyes which transition from pink to purple, and finally to a black color. The hairs and the rest of the bee's shape forms.

- #5=D

The final stage of the bee life cycle occurs anywhere between 15 to 24 days. This is because the time it takes for bees to develop depends on the type of bee they are; queen bees, worker bees, and drones. The queen bees take the least amount of time to develop, and the drone bees take the most time to develop. In the final stage, the bee will emerge from the waxy hive and an adult bee will emerge!