

# STUDENT HANDOUT - WHAT'S THE BUZZ ON NATIVE BEES?

Name \_\_\_\_\_



CARPENTER BEE

I am the largest bee in the Sonoran Desert. I can chew through dead wood or agave stalks to make my own shelter. I love to visit the flowers of palo verde trees. I sometimes snip through the bottoms of flowers to steal the nectar without pollinating them!

I nest in \_\_\_\_\_

A

nest made in abandoned beetle burrows in dead branches



BUMBLEBEE

I make a loud buzzing sound while I'm visiting flowers. I am the only bee that pollinates potato flowers. I live in an underground hive with my sisters. Color me stripes yellow.



HONEYBEE

I live in a large hive and collect nectar and pollen to make honey. European settlers brought me to North America.

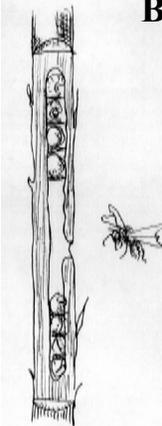


LEAFCUTTER BEE

I can dig my own nest underground. I love to sip nectar from cactus flowers. I have fuzzy, gray and black stripes.

I nest in \_\_\_\_\_

B



nest chewed in agave stalk

look for abandoned beetle burrows in dead wood, or any other tunnel I can find to lay my eggs in. I snip little pieces of leaves to line my nest with. I will also nest in wooden blocks or paper tubes. Flowers in the pea family are my favorites but I will even pollinate carrot flowers.

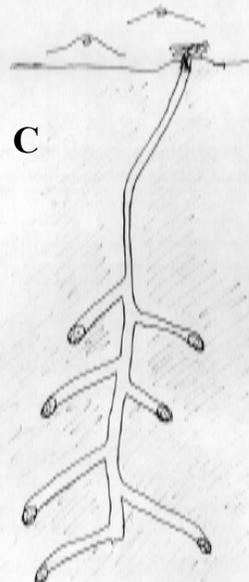
I nest in \_\_\_\_\_



MASON BEE

I need mud to make my nest in an abandoned beetle burrow or any other tunnel. I will also nest in wooden blocks or paper tubes. I pollinate many fruit crops including apples. Color me shiny dark blue.

I nest in \_\_\_\_\_



nest dug underground

SWEAT BEE

I can dig my own nest underground. I like to visit lots of different kinds of flowers and I sometimes take a sip of sweat from people! Color me metallic green.

I nest in \_\_\_\_\_