

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Poetry

### How Doth The Little Busy Bee

By Isaac Watts

How doth the little busy bee  
Improve each shining hour,  
And gather honey all the day  
From every opening flow'r!

How skillfully she builds her cell!  
How neat she spreads the wax!  
And labours hard to store it well  
With the sweet food she makes.

In works of labour or of skill,  
I would be busy too;  
For Satan finds some mischief still  
For idle hands to do.

In books, or work, or healthful  
play,  
Let my first years be passed,  
That I may give for ev'ry day  
Some good account at last.

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**Questions:**

**Answer the following questions in sentences.**

1. In your own words, summarize the poem “How Doth The Little Busy Bee”.

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2. What is the title of this passage?

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3. What is the main idea of this poem?

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4. Who wrote this poem? \_\_\_\_\_

5. **Research questions:**

- a.** The poem states that bees “gather honey all the day from every opening flow’r!” Is there a name for what bees get from flowers? What is it?

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- b.** How are bees beneficial to flowers?

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6. Which of your five senses is used in the poem. Give an example?

Sense: \_\_\_\_\_

Example: \_\_\_\_\_

7. What words rhyme in this poem?

Stanza one: \_\_\_\_\_

Stanza two: \_\_\_\_\_

Stanza three: \_\_\_\_\_

Stanza four: \_\_\_\_\_

### Literal Questions

8. According to the poem, what does the bee do all day?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Why does the bee keep busy?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. What advice does the poet have for children?

\_\_\_\_\_

11. List three tasks the bees do every day?

i. \_\_\_\_\_

ii. \_\_\_\_\_

iii. \_\_\_\_\_

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12. What warning did the poet have for the reader?

\_\_\_\_\_

13. Why do you think the poet means by the following?

i. *"first years passed"* \_\_\_\_\_

ii. *"In works of labour or of skill"* \_\_\_\_\_

iii. *"Idle hands"* \_\_\_\_\_

14. In your own words, what does stanza four (4) means?

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\_\_\_\_\_

15. In your notebook, draw an example of the *"cell"* the bees build. Then state the shape you observe.