

# ZEKE'S FUN AT HOME ACTIVITY CORNER

April 16, 2020

Dear Zoo-Friends,

We are still **celebrating Spring** through the theme, “**Backyards, Bugs and Botany!**” enjoy these **S.T.R.E.A.M.S.** activities! Today, we are going to discover **ALL ABOUT BEES**. Tomorrow, we'll learn about the life-cycle of plants. Next week: **Earth Week!**



**S.T.R.E.A.M.S.:** **science**, **technology** (looking up science topics online, viewing pictures, learning new information), **recreation** (movement and fitness – free and structured physical activities), **engineering** (little hands building with blocks, Legos®, scissors, stirring, transferring, lacing – anything that uses the hands and fingers), **the arts** (art/music), **math**, and **socialization** (learning about family, self, community, world).

Let's see how many things you can discover in your yard, in books, and online this week. See lessons for “Older Children” below.  
**Two Critical Every Day Things to Do:**

- 1) Signal and sound the “**a – z’s**” every day. Use your *Zoo-phonics Animal Alphabet Cards* and Safari Sid's YouTube video for fun practice.
- 2) Read a wonderful **literature book** aloud every day (fiction or non-fiction). Signal and sound the first letters in important words in the book as you read (have children Signal too!). Clap out the syllables in these important words.



**SUGGESTED LITERATURE BOOKS:** *On Beyond Bugs: All About Insects* by Trish Rabe and Aristides Ruiz; *Bee Dance* by Rick Chrustowski; *What on Earth: Bees* by Andrea Quigley and [Paulina Morgan](#).

- 3) Read aloud this **poem**:

## **I Am a Busy Bee**©

I am a busy, busy bee.  
I sip nectar to make honey.  
Flowers are my very best friends.  
In the hive, pollen and nectar blend.

On flowers I give pollen from my feet.  
I feed my bee-friends nectar to eat.  
Spring is my favorite season.  
Making honey is the reason!



**RESEARCH:** Bees sip nectar from flowering plants. They also pick up, on their feet and wings, pollen. With the pollen and nectar combined in the hive, it makes honey. It also feeds the worker bees! You know that you can still eat the honey that was placed in Egyptian tombs 3,000 years ago? The oldest pot of honey is 5,500 years old. It had crystalized but it is still edible. It was also used in medicine by ancient people. Did you know it is good for the skin and heals wounds? Amazing!

**S.T.R.E.A.M.S.** (Don't forget to Signal letters that are underlined as you talk with your child!)

### 1) **Science:**

- a) Learn all about bees. They are so amazing. This is easy to do! On YouTube, there are many videos for children. Enjoy!
- b) Part of being a scientist is using your senses to teach you things. Try tasting different kinds of honey. Did you know that the taste of honey changes depending on where the beehives are placed? Different flowering plants make the difference in the flavors of honey!
- c) Have you ever seen a **honey comb**? You can buy honey with the honeycomb right in the jar! It shows all the cells. And what is honeycomb made of? Wax!





