

Columbia Children's Arboretum VFE

Fun Facts!

Scene: 'Welcome!'

- **Mason Bees** live here! Mason bees do not use hives like honeybees. In nature, mason bees place their eggs in holes drilled by beetles or woodpeckers.
- Insects can live just about **anywhere**. Land insects can be found high up in trees, deep in the soil, on leaves, flying all day and night, and others make their own homes.

Scene: 'The Garden'

- The Bumble bees are engaging in an activity called **Pollination**, which refers to the transfer of pollen grains from the male anther of a flower to the female stigma. This enables fertilization and creates offspring for the next plant generation!

Scene: 'Towle Bridge'

- **Nutria** live here! Invasive aquatic rodents that have rounded thin tails similar to rats.

Scene: 'Shady Grove'

- Alder cones are usually eaten by **birds and small mammals such as squirrels**.

Scene: 'The Waterfront'

- **Beavers** did this! Beavers use their teeth to cut trees to form dams and lodges!
- **Fungi** grow on **land, in soil or on plant matter**. Fungus prefer moist areas and almost complete darkness to grow

Scene: '_____ Goose!'

- Those are **Ducks!** Ducks eat seeds, aquatic plants such as algae or duckweed, and even small creatures such as fish, insects, worms, and snails.
- **Termites** have specific mouth parts designed for **chewing and breaking down wood**

Scene: 'The Meadow'

- That's a **Garter Snake!** These carnivorous predators eat just about anything they can overpower such as snails, earthworms, grub, frogs, grasshoppers, and mice.

- **Birds** live here! Birds build nests to provide a safe place for their eggs and young to develop.