

Honeybees

Distribute the Honeybees page to students and have students draw/write along with you as you create the graphic using your document camera or on a poster paper. Title the page "Honeybees".

1. Write **colony** and explain that a colony is a "**group of bees**" that **lives in a hive**.
 - Say, "There are three kinds of bees in a hive."
 - Write **queen**- Say, "There is only one queen in a hive. Her job is to lay the eggs. She can live for 1-4 years and rarely leaves the hive. Without the queen, the colony dies."
 - Write **drone**- Say, "There are only a few drones in a colony. Drones are always male. Their only job is fertilizing the eggs."
 - Write **worker**- Say, "There can be 40-60,000 worker bees in a colony. They do all of the work of the hive. They tend to the queen, feed the drones, feed the larva (babies), make food from pollen and nectar, and **forage** for food."
2. Write **forage** and explain that forage means to **gather** or **collect**
 - Say, "Worker bees forage for nectar and pollen. They gather it from **flowers** (draw a flower)."
 - Draw a dotted trail to and from a flower. Say, "They may fly 4-5 miles from the hive to forage."
3. Write **pollinate** and explain the **pollination** is when a flower is fertilized so that **fruits** and **vegetables** can grow. Draw a flower with an arrow to a fruit.
4. Draw a pie chart with 70/30. Say, "We rely on bees pollinating flowers for up to **70% of the food** we eat. **Bees are important!**"
5. Say, "But there is a **mystery** surrounding bees. They are **vanishing (disappearing)** and they are dying. Scientists don't know why."
6. Say "They call this phenomenon **Colony Collapse Disorder** or **CCD**."