

TAPESCRIPT

Narrator: Section 3

A Class Project – Wild Animals and Their Environments

You will hear Jake and Jo giving their presentation about honeybees.

The recording will be played twice. Do as much as you can the first time and answer all the questions the second time.

You have 30 seconds to look at your questions.

[30 sec music]

Listen and answer the questions.

- {Jake: Thank you for listening to our presentation today about honeybees. I will now hand you over to Jo.
- Jo: Thank you, Jake. I will start by sharing a fact about honeybees with you. When you think of a bee, you think it is fat and hairy. However, this is actually a bumblebee, not a honeybee, and the two are often confused. Honeybees are actually often a kind of browner colour and are much thinner than bumblebees.
- Jake: The second fact is that although honeybees are dependent on flowers to produce honey, the flowering plants themselves are actually really dependent on bees.
- Jo: I know that bees collect nectar, the sweet liquid produced by flowers, and turn it into honey. So how do bees help the plants?
- Jake: In the process of collecting nectar, bees brush the pollen that they collected on their fur and legs onto other flowers. This helps the plants to reproduce so that they can grow fruits and seeds. Bees are not the only pollinators, of course. Other insects do it, too.
- Jo: The third fact is that not so long ago, it was very common to see wild honeybees. However, in recent years they have become much less common and they are now struggling to survive. In Hong Kong most of the honeybees that people now see are kept by beekeepers. They take care of the bees so they are healthy. Why are honeybees disappearing? Jake will talk about some of the possible reasons.
- Jake: Thank you, Jo. We are not sure about the exact reasons for the decreasing number of honeybees. One possible reason is pesticides. Farmers spray their crops to keep pests away. This could be a big

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problem for bees.

Jo: Another possible reason why honeybee numbers have been reduced is that we often grow the same crop in one place. However, bees like variety, and it may be that the flowers and plants that mostly grow in farmers' fields now are not the best ones for bees to survive on. That's why bees are often successful in cities now.

Jake: Another possible reason for the... *[fade out]* }

Narrator: Now listen to the recording again.

[repeat recording { }]

You have 30 seconds to check your answers.

[30 sec music]

This is the end of Section 3.