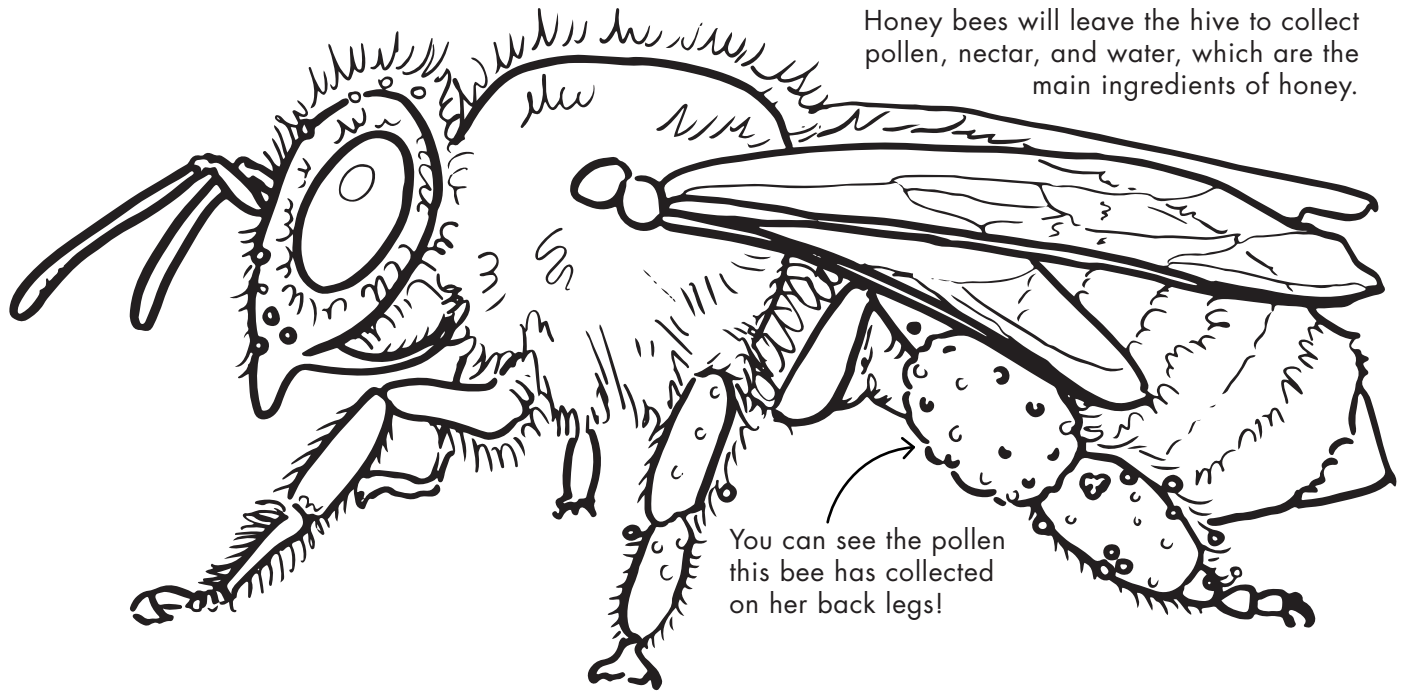


Honey Bees at the Garfield Park Conservatory!

Honey bees are responsible for a sweet treat that many of us know and love! Honey is really tasty, but how and why do honey bees make it?

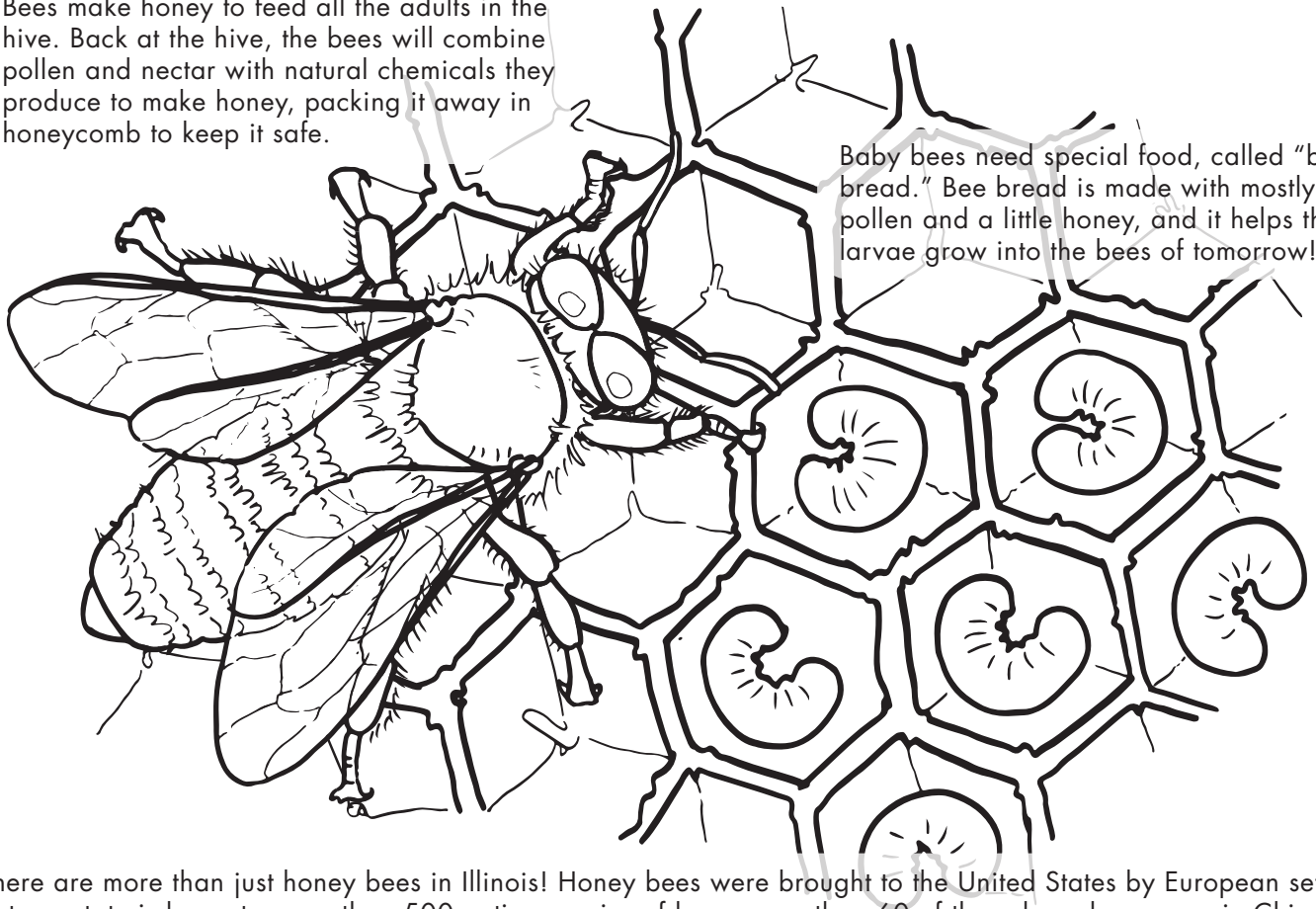
GARFIELD PARK
CONSERVATORY
ALLIANCE 



Honey bees will leave the hive to collect pollen, nectar, and water, which are the main ingredients of honey.

You can see the pollen this bee has collected on her back legs!

Bees make honey to feed all the adults in the hive. Back at the hive, the bees will combine pollen and nectar with natural chemicals they produce to make honey, packing it away in honeycomb to keep it safe.



Baby bees need special food, called "bee bread." Bee bread is made with mostly pollen and a little honey, and it helps the larvae grow into the bees of tomorrow!

There are more than just honey bees in Illinois! Honey bees were brought to the United States by European settlers, but our state is home to more than 500 native species of bees—more than 60 of these have been seen in Chicago alone! If you want to see these rare bees, try planting native flowers and providing an insect house for shelter.