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Honey

Introduction

Do you like to eat honey? This text is about honey – where it comes from and how it is stored.

You will read about

- how bees collect a sweet juice called nectar
- how they store it in a honeycomb
- how they do a special 'dance' for other bees.

A What is the text about?

Tick **one**.

flowers	☐	wax	☐
dancing	☐	honey	☐

B What is stored in a honeycomb?

_____

Making honey

Honey is made by bees from the nectar they collect from flowers. They store the honey in honeycombs inside their nests, and use the honey as food.

Honeybees on a honeycomb

There are different sorts of bees. Honeybees make more honey than other bees. They make twice as much honey as they need.

1 What does the bee use the nectar for?

Tick **one**.

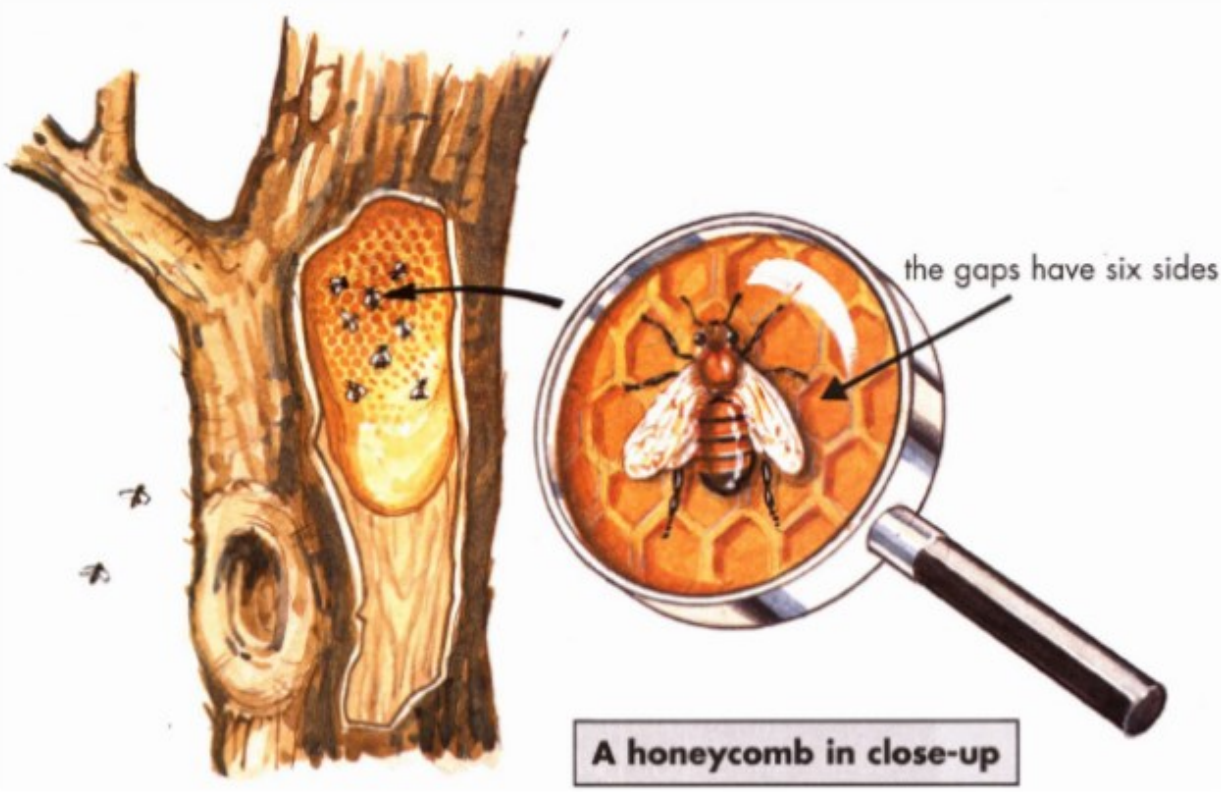
keeping warm	☐	making honey	☐
going to a flower	☐	doing a dance	☐

2 Which bees make more honey than other bees?

_____

In the country, some bees make their nests in places like the trunk of a tree.

Bees make honeycombs with wax from their own bodies. The gaps in the honeycomb are where the honey is stored.



A honeycomb in close-up

3 Where does the wax for the honeycombs come from?

Tick **one**.

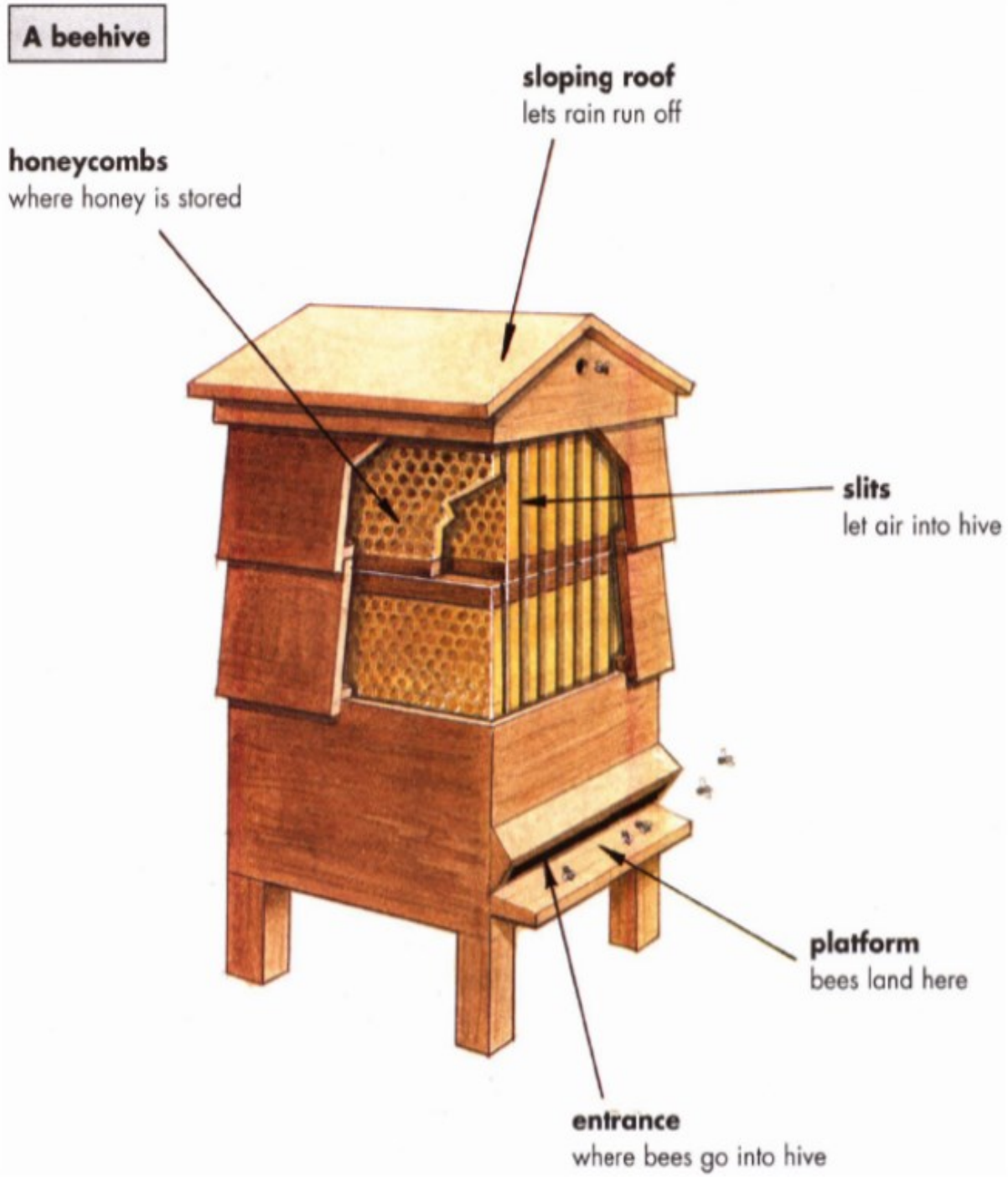
the trees	☐	the ground	☐
the bees' bodies	☐	the bees' wings	☐

4 Where in the honeycomb is the honey stored?

Beehives

In gardens or on farms, beekeepers keep bees in beehives like this one so they can collect the honey. About fifty thousand bees live in one beehive.

A beehive



5 Why do people keep bees in beehives?

Tick **one**.

to keep them as pets	☐	to stop them stinging	☐
to keep them hidden	☐	to collect the honey	☐

6 About how many bees live in one hive?

_____

7 How is air let into the hive?

_____

8 What helps the rain run off the hive?

Tick **one**.

the platform	☐	the sloping roof	☐
the honeycombs	☐	the slits	☐