# senior living 

activity assistant
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# GETTING TO KNOW... THE BUMBLE BEE 

| Region \& Habitat | Farmlands and open fields, nesting below the <br> grass or underground. |
| :---: | :--- |
| Classification | Genus Bombus, part of Apidae |
| Size | About 0.6 to 1 inch in length |
| Cocturnal or Diurnal | Diurnal (cannot fly at night) |
| Conservation Status | Teetering on the brink of extinction |
| Average Lifespan | The queen - about a year. Worker bees - 2-6 weeks |
| Gestational Period | The bumble bee has four stages: egg, larva, pupa, <br> and adult. After about five weeks, the eggs hatch <br> and the queen feeds the larva on pollen and nectar. <br> After two weeks, the bumble bee larva spin <br> cocoons and pupate. |
| Diet | Pollen and nectar from flowers |
| Scientific name | Bombus |
| Fun Fact | Bumble bees can flap their wings at 230 beats per <br> second. This rapid wing beat causes the air around <br> the bee to vibrate and that sound travels to our ears <br> which we interpret as a buzzing sound. |

Like its relative the honey bee, the bumble bee is a social insect that forms colonies with a single queen. Most species of bumble bee have smaller colonies than the honey bee, with as few as 50 individuals. Bumble bees are found to have round bodies covered in soft hair with bands of color that vary between species.

Bumble bees hibernate for about 6 months, living nearly 8 inches down in the ground until they are aroused by the sun. Once awakened, the queen will want nectar which she'll use as a food source. She'll look for a hollowed-out area in the ground to build a new nest, often taking over pre-existing burrows built by other animals. After establishing her nest, she'll prepare a honeypot that's made of wax and filled with nectar in tiny cups. In each tiny cup, the queen will put fertilized eggs that contain larva; within 20 days the larva will pupate. The colony will continue to grow and the queen will not leave the nest again.

## WORD SEARCH

V X V C N D B Q U E E N
B V U T E W U C W O D M T Z A J C I M O F L Y B G V Z O T N B P X A B O H C J G A G L J G W U M G R O J R S E S C J Z B C B A L T Q B Y T U Z U
D N F L O W E R S I G S R E H S U N E L V U N Q O S B Q J N Y U K W Q G N T I W R J W E U D B K E S D E Y T Y O C G N O

| Nests | Colony | Fly | Bumble Bee |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Drone | Sting | Nectar | Wings |
| Flowers | Buzz | Queen | Bombus |

## MAZE



## FIND 10 DIFFERENCES



## SOLUTIONS



The 10 differences in the left image are:

1. The second wing is at a different position.
2. The dots on the antenna are white instead of black.
3. There is a point on the forehead rather than a smooth curve.
4. The nose is white instead of black.
5. The stripe pattern on the body starts off black at the head and ends in white at the stinger.
6. The pail is full instead of empty.
7. The two tall plants on the far right are further apart.
8. The leaf on the far left is pointed the other way.
9. The flower center has more detail.
10. There is an additional leaf on the lower right corner.

