

Name:

Date:

Homeroom:

# Heritage Fair

## Taking Notes

### The Life of Honeybees

**Instructions:** Read the following article. When you are done, you will highlight the important words in the reading. Then you will decide on what the three themes discussed are, and for each theme, record the key words. Finally, write your own brief summary of what you have read.

Honeybees live in highly organized colonies. Each colony is made up of three types of bees: the queen, workers, and drones. The queen's main job is to lay eggs, which she does constantly. Worker bees, who are all female, take care of many tasks, including gathering nectar and pollen, making honey, and protecting the hive. Drones are male bees whose job is to mate with the queen. They do not gather food or take care of the hive.

Honeybees communicate with each other using a special dance called the "waggle dance." When a worker bee finds a good source of food, she returns to the hive and dances in a figure-eight pattern. This tells the other bees where to go to find the food. The direction and speed of the dance give important information about how far and in which direction the food is.

Honeybees play an important role in pollination. As they move from flower to flower collecting nectar, they spread pollen from one flower to another. This helps plants produce fruit and seeds. Without honeybees, many crops we rely on would not grow as well. In fact, about one-third of the food we eat depends on pollination by honeybees and other insects.

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#### Highlight or Circle Key Words

Read the article again. As you read, highlight or circle the most important words or phrases that help you understand the main ideas. Look for names, dates, and important actions or events.

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To complete the worksheet, organize your important words into jot notes. To do this, identify three themes, and record your highlighted words for each. Finally, write a summary in your own words about what you read.

**Theme 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

Important Words:

Summary:

**Theme 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

Important Words:

Summary:

**Theme 3:** \_\_\_\_\_

Important Words:

Summary:

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