



## A model honeybee (for older children)

Use a magnifying glass to look at a dead honeybee so you can see how it is made up. Alternatively you could find photographs of honeybees to look at.

If you look carefully you will see that the bees body has three parts, the head, thorax and abdomen. You can cut three sections from an egg box to represent these. If you feel that the abdomen is too short wrap and glue a piece of paper round to make it a little longer.

Paint the body using poster paint, and try to make the colours realistic.

Look for the large compound eyes on the bees head. Make them from circles of black paper or cloth and stick them in the right place on the head.

Make the wings from card, paper or something transparent. How many are there? Are they long or short compared with the body length? Are they veined? Where are they fixed?

Use pipe cleaners or wire plastic bag seals to make the legs and antennae. Where are they fixed? Are they straight? When the legs are bent the insects body is nearer to the ground which makes it more stable.

Making this bee should give you ideas for better designs. Try them out and tell us about them. You could also make a queen bee and some drones.