

Bee Science Club 1	<b>Understanding the importance of common thistle</b>	
<b>Overview</b>		<b>Notes</b>
<p>Watch this video from Wildflower Bee Farm: <a href="https://youtu.be/ahqQU07h5ns">https://youtu.be/ahqQU07h5ns</a></p> <p>While watching: Study the types of wild flowers that are discussed and observed.</p> <p>Today’s goal: Determine the importance of wild flowers for bees and how we can increase the wild flowers grown in our communities.</p> <p>Further research:  Canada Thistle - <a href="https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/terrestrial/plants/canada-thistle">https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/terrestrial/plants/canada-thistle</a>  Flowering plants that attract bees - <a href="https://www.countryliving.com/gardening/g32157369/flowers-that-attract-bees/">https://www.countryliving.com/gardening/g32157369/flowers-that-attract-bees/</a>  National Geographic Invasive species mini lesson - <a href="https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/invasive-species/">https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/invasive-species/</a>  Bull thistle - <a href="https://www.invasive.org/browse/subinfo.cfm?sub=3393">https://www.invasive.org/browse/subinfo.cfm?sub=3393</a>  Sweet clover - <a href="https://badbeekeepingblog.com/2016/05/31/sweet-sweet-clover-part-1/">https://badbeekeepingblog.com/2016/05/31/sweet-sweet-clover-part-1/</a></p>		
<b>Extending Questions</b>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why is this thistle called Creeping? How important is it to pollinators and our environment? (Review pollination and what it helps to do).</li> <li>2. How can an invasive plant be good for the environment? What makes a plant invasive and is calling it invasive a good thing? (refer to National Geographic lesson to help with your insights).</li> <li>3. If thistles are important to our pollinators and bees how can we get governments and people to let it grow? (Do our parks and schools have wild flowers? Why or why not?).</li> <li>4. Where did the Bull Thistle come from and why does it have such a wide stem?</li> <li>5. Where can you find sweet yellow clover outside of the Wildflower Bee Farm? How do farmers use it and how does it help the soil? What is the amount of nectar and pollen that one acre of Yellow Clover can produce? (If you have a friend who is a farmer, give them a call with parent permission and see what they say!)</li> </ol>		
<b>Extra activities</b>		
<p>Flower design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Select your favourite flower, draw and colour it on a sheet of paper</li> <li>- You may include several different flowers, or draw a bunch of the same</li> <li>- Step by step help to draw flowers: <a href="https://youtu.be/vR96m64KpUg">https://youtu.be/vR96m64KpUg</a></li> </ul> <p>Farm design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Option 1: recreate the wild flower bee farm landscape</li> <li>- Option 2: imagine you are creating your own bee farm, what would you include? Would you also have solar panels? What about an airplane runway? <i>Bee</i> creative!</li> </ul>		

**Wild Flower Bee Farm**  
*Intermediate Program*