

Bees Buzzing in an Apple Orchard

STEAM



CONNECT each stage of an apple's life with the care and attention it needs from when the buds are blossoming and pollinated to when the fruit is harvested and transported to its destination.



CREATE a sketch for each stage of growth in the circles on the left and write what care is needed in the circles on the right.



Ava W.

From Bud to Blossom to Fruit

SKETCH A STAGE OF GROWTH ON THE LEFT AND WRITE SOME EXAMPLES OF APPLE TREE CARE ON THE RIGHT.

Illustrate a close-up view of a bud going from the dormant stage to the "silver tip" stage as it swells.

Example:

Apple trees need at least 6 hours of direct sunlight daily.

Illustrate a close-up image of a "half-inch green bud" emerging into a bloom.

Example:

Water is essential for growth.

Example:

Apple blossoms need cross-pollination in order to become fruit.

Illustrate a close-up of an apple blossom fully opened with a stamen and stigma.



Education

Thinking Sheet

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RESPOND to the orchard's need for pollinators. Apple orchards depend heavily on visits from bees and other pollinators in order for fruit to grow. There are many species of bees, but sadly the world's entire bee population has been in decline for years.



Katie L.

RISKS TO POLLINATORS:

What could be putting bees at risk?

Example: Pollution interferes with bees' ability to smell blossoms that are ready for them to pollinate.

1. _____

2. _____

BEE HELPFUL:

What can we do to help bees and other pollinators?

Example: Bees love clover, so leave it alone when you are weeding your lawn.

1. _____

2. _____



PRESENT your art and describe what apple trees need at each stage of the fruit's development and why pollinators are so important. Give your ideas for helping pollinators flourish.



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