

My name is Anita Khushwaha. I live in Bochaha village. This village is at Muzzafarpur district in Bihar. I stay with my parents and two younger brothers. I study in college. Besides studying, I teach young children. I also keep honeybees.

All these have not been easy for me. When I was young, I used to spend all my time with my goats as they grazed for food. I always wanted to go to school but my parents did not like the idea of girls going to school.

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- This is a true story. Anita Khushwaha is an ideal for the girls who have changed their life by going to school.
 - Encourage children to find Bihar in the map of India.

A Dream of School :

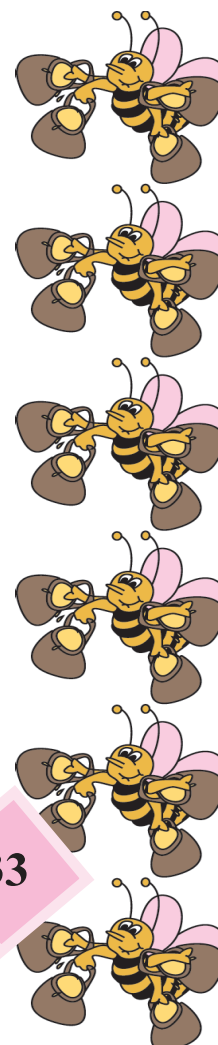
One day I reached the school and silently sat down behind the children. I felt so happy. When I came back home and collected courage to talk to my parents about school. But they clearly told me not to go to school. I cried a lot.



One of the teachers in my village came to know about this and he explained to my parents about education. The teacher also told them that they would not have to pay anything for my education upto class VIII. The teacher said that it is the basic right of every child to go to school. My parents agreed and I started going to school. I was not so intelligent, but I always asked questions !

List out how much money you spend in one year for various school related things.

Things	Money Spent
1. Travel to school and back	
2. Notebooks	
3. Pen-Pencil	
4. Uniform	
5. School bag	
6. Lunch box	
7. Shoes / Footwear	
8. Other Things (i)	
(ii)	
Total	





- How much money did you spend on your books this year ?

- Draw a picture of school uniform of your choice in your notebook and colour it.

Study is continued :

I passed class V. I knew that the cost of my study would increase now. My parents were not ready for my education but I wanted to study. I started to teach younger children. From that money I continued my study.



Let us Talk :

- Every child has right to study. Education upto class VIII is free. What do you know about this ? Discuss.



Slowly I started talking to other parents in the village about sending their daughters to school. My parents also started helping me in my work. My mother used to do all the household works so that I could get more time to study.

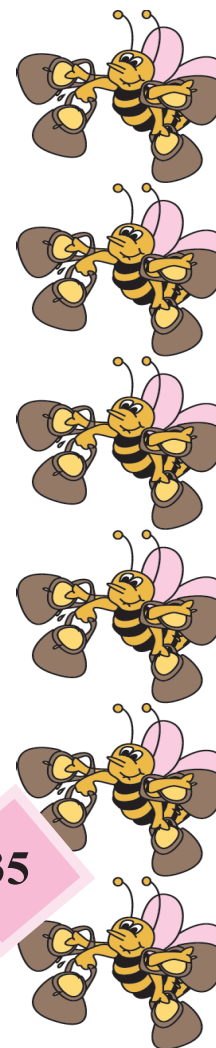
Bee-Keeper :

There are many Litchi trees in our area. Honeybees are attracted to the Litchi flowers. So, Many people do the work of bee-keeping. Government also provides training for that. I joined this training. I was the only girl in this. Honeybees lay their eggs from October to December. This was the best time to start bee-keeping.

- Have you seen any insects near flowers ? Find out their names and write.

- Why do they come near to the flowers ? Find out.

- Draw and colour their pictures in the notebook.
- When honeybees fly, there is a kind of sound. Can you try to copy this sound ?



Becoming a Bee-keeper :

I completed my bee-keeping course, but I need more money to start work. I continued to teach and collected ₹ 5000. With this money, I bought two boxes for keeping bees. Each box costs ₹ 2000. With the remaining money, I bought sugar to make the syrup for honeybees and medicine to clean the beehives.



Anita and the Honeybees

That was in September. By December, I had so many bees, still I had to buy two more boxes. I was still learning about bee-keeping. Many times, the bees would sting me and my hands and face would get swollen. It would pain a lot. I cannot complain to anybody because I myself had decided to do this work.



Find out :

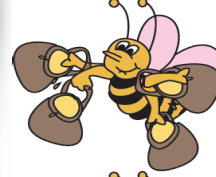
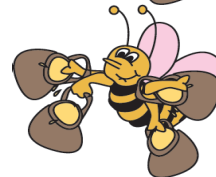
- What do people do when the bee has stung ?
- Draw a picture of honeybee in your notebook. Colour it and give it a name.

On the Litchi trees flowers have bloomed in February. I put all my boxes near the litchi orchards. I collected 12 kg of honey from each box. I sold this honey in the market. This was my first earning from bees. Now I have twenty boxes.

- What will be the total cost of Anita's 20 boxes ?

Everyday I go to college on cycle. My college is five kilometres away in the town.

Now you also know a lot about Anita.





Looking Around



Anita is known by everyone in all the villages nearby. She goes to all the village meetings and talks about how important it is for everyone to study. Sometimes people make fun of her, but Anita knows what she has to do.

Anita wants to become a wholesaler so that she can help the villagers to get the right price for their honey.



Find out :

- Anita and other people of the village get ₹ 35 for one kilogram of honey. How much does one kilogram of honey cost in your city ?

- Is honey used in your house ? What is it used for ?

Every beehive has one Queen Bee that lays eggs. Most of the bees in hive are worker-bees. These bees work whole day.

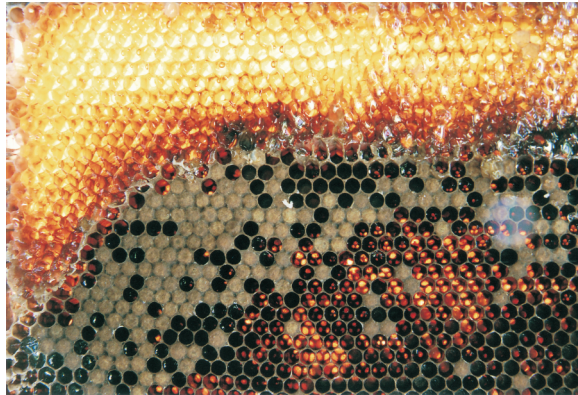


For the teacher : What do the wholesalers do ? What is the need of them in the society ? Discuss it.



Anita and the Honeybees

They fly around flowers. They collect nectar from flowers to make honey. When any bee finds flowers with nectar, it does a special kind of dance by which other bees can know where the nectar is. The worker-bees are very important for the hive. Without them there would be neither hive nor any nectar collection. All the bees in the hive would go hungry.



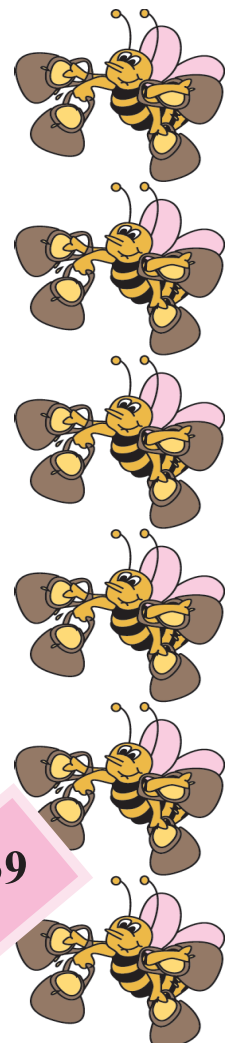
- Which are other insects that live together in a group, like honeybees ?

Ants live and work together like honeybees. The Queen Ant lays the eggs, the soldier Ants look after and guard the ant hill. Worker Ants are always busy looking for food and bringing it to the ant hill. Termites and wasps also live like this.

- Have you seen where ants live ?

- By which food items ants are attracted ?

- Look at a line of ants. What is its colour ?





- Have you been bitten by an ant ? What was the ant like-black or red, big or small ?

- While eating peanuts you probably throw away the shells. Why don't you try to make some insects by using the shells. Do not forget to colour them.

