



BEES AND HONEY

Alex's story behind the facts

Recently, our neighbours bought a beehive and I'm super excited because they said I could help look after it. YES! They also said we can have some of their delicious honey when it is ready. YES again! I love honey. EVERYONE in our family loves honey.

Ever since our neighbours bought their hive, I've enjoyed studying bees in our backyard, focusing on one bee at a time. Bees move from flower to flower, collecting pollen to take back to the hive. I wondered too - what actually makes that 'buzzing' noise?. I could even see the yellow pollen stuck to one bee's legs. Amazing!



We often go to our local markets on a weekend to buy fresh veggies and fruit (and other goodies) that local people have grown and made. This is where we usually buy our honey.

At dinner I made the mistake of saying, that at the next local market, I wanted to ask the 'bee lady' a bit more about her bees and honey. I also said that it was also going to be 'World Bee Day' that day!

Why was that a mistake? - because Iggy said that he wanted to dress up as a bee when we went to the market.

Noooooooooooooo!

Mum said that it might be difficult to find a bee costume for Iggy to wear! She suggested that Iggy might like to wear his yellow t-shirt instead.

Iggy said that he wouldn't look like a bee if he didn't have any stripes.

I said that if Iggy wears a yellow t-shirt with black stripes drawn over it front and back, I wasn't going!

Eventually, they negotiated a plain yellow t-shirt and brown trousers. I could live with that!

Saturday was market day and we headed straight to the 'bee lady' who was really excited when I told her that I was investigating facts about bees and honey.



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Just then, Iggy started flapping his arms up and down and buzzing like a bee! Soooo embarrassing! The bee lady was impressed and said that she had an oversized, yellow and brown striped beanie if Iggy would like it. She also gave him a poster that read, 'Hip Hip Hooray! It's Happy Bee Day!'

Noooooooooo!

You guessed it - every stall we visited at the market was entertained by Iggy (*wearing the giant bee beanie on his head*), flapping his arms and making a loud buzzing sound.

Iggy also wanted to show his 'Happy Bee Day' poster to EVERYONE we met!

I don't know what I did to deserve a little brother like him. HELP!

Anyway, back at home, Iggy refused to take off his 'bee outfit' including the beanie - but thankfully we didn't have any visitors. Our neighbours with the beehive were suitably impressed.

Of course, we had to have some honey on toast as part of our lunch. Iggy tipped his toast up and honey dripped all over the floor. Our Golden Retriever, Nick, came to the rescue and I'm sure Mum didn't even bother to mop that floor!

I made some honey and banana bread with mum that afternoon. Honey can certainly be useful for lots of things.

So, it was our neighbours getting their beehive and our 'eventful' trip to the markets that inspired me to investigate and report on bees and honey. WOW - did I discover some interesting stuff that I didn't know before.

Why not check out my 'Bees and honey (including why bees BUZZ) favourite fast facts' to discover fascinating facts you may not know about our honey bees, the yummy honey they produce, and our native Australian bees too.