

# Week 3 Activities

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## Activity 1

Learn more about endangered animals by visiting a zoo. Take a Bingo sheet with you the next time you go and give yourself a point whenever you come to an endangered species or an animal species that no longer exists in the wild.

## Activity 2

Did you know that the honeybee is the state insect of Kansas? Many Kansas farmers produce honey. Find locally sourced honey and use it in a dessert, like Honey Bee Cookies (recipe from Food.com at <https://www.food.com/recipe/honey-bee-cookies-126379>).

### Ingredients

- ½ cup margarine (or butter, softened)
- ½ cup brown sugar, packed
- ½ cup honey
- 1 egg
- 1½ cups all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon



### Directions

1. Heat oven to 375° F.
2. Beat margarine or butter, brown sugar, honey, and egg in a medium bowl on medium speed, scraping bowl constantly, until smooth. Stir in remaining ingredients.
3. Drop dough by teaspoonful onto an ungreased baking sheet.
4. Bake until set and light brown around edges (surface of cookies will appear shiny), 7-9 minutes.
5. Let stand 3-5 minutes before removing from cookie sheet.

## Activity 3

Pollinators (pollinating animals, such as birds, bees, butterflies, bats, moths, and other animals) are crucial to our environment, helping plants to produce fruit, nuts, and seeds through the process of pollination. These animals move pollen from flower to flower and within the flower, fertilizing plants so they create their rich bounties. Without pollinators, there would be a dramatic decrease in the food and beverages we depend on.

You can assist in the efforts to increase the number of pollinators by planting a pollinator garden. The plants and items, such as houses for bats and native bees, in the garden will provide the resources pollinators need to thrive.

### Instructions

1. Take note of the sun and shade in your yard. This information will help you in the next step.
2. The best place to start is your local nursery or greenhouse to discuss what native plants would be best. The time of year decides whether you'll be starting from seeds or planting grown plants. Your local nursery should be able to tell you what plants attract pollinators, which plants are right for the time of year, and if the plants are shade or sun lovers. Make sure to let the nursery staff know if your yard is mostly shady, mostly sunny, or a mix.
3. Decide which plants/seeds to get. Grab some bags of garden soil if needed.
4. Till up the area your garden will be and mix in the garden soil.
5. Dig holes for your plants or, if using seeds, follow the directions on the seed packets.
6. Place plants in holes and fill in and around with soil.
7. Place any other garden items, such as bird baths or houses, in the garden.

Enjoy your garden. Make sure to water the plants/seeds as needed. Seeds will take longer to fully mature into flowering plants so patience is key.

Best of luck!

Sources:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (2021, April 9). "How to build a pollinator garden."

Retrieved from <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/news/PollinatorGarden.html>

Pollinator Partnership (2021). "Pollination". Retrieved from

<https://www.pollinator.org/pollination>

