

Buzz Words

Read each source below and on page 11. Then complete the activities on pages 12–13.

Source 1

Mr. Hill said, “Does anybody have a science question? For the next 10 minutes, you can ask any question you want about science. What are you curious to know?”

Nick raised his hand, “Why do bees buzz?”

“Great question,” said Mr. Hill. “A flying insect has wings. Its flapping wings push against the air. This helps the insect stay up in the air. The smaller the wings, the more times they must flap to keep the insect up. Bees have small wings. Their wings must flap about 200 times every second. All of that flapping makes a sound. The sound it makes is “bzzz.” Other insects also flap their wings. A mosquito’s wings are even smaller than a bee’s. It must flap its wings about 400 times per second. It makes a whining sound. A butterfly has bigger wings. It only has to flap its wings about six times every second. A butterfly is not very loud. Its wings aren’t pushing against the air nearly as much as a bee’s or a mosquito’s wings.”

Source 2

Mr. Achoo asked his students, “What sound does a car horn make?”

His students said, “Honk!”

Mr. Achoo asked his students, “What sound does a bee make?”

His students said, “Bzzz!”

Mr. Achoo asked his students, “What sound does a dog make?”

Vera said, “Ruff!” Victor said, “Grrr!” Violet said, “Yip!” Wally said, “Woof!”

Mr. Achoo asked his students, “What do we call words like *honk*, *bzzz*, and *ruff*?”

None of the students said a word.

Mr. Achoo said, “Words like *honk*, *bzzz*, *ruff*, and *woof* name the sounds we hear all around us. We call these words *onomatopoeia*. What a long, fancy word! Here is how we pronounce this long, fancy word: ***ahh-no-mah-toe-pee-uh***. What a nice sound that word has! Any word that sounds like the sound something makes is an onomatopoeia.”

Source 3

Bzzz. Do you think of bees or other insects when you hear that sound? Many people don't like bees. Bees buzz, and they also sting. That is why many people don't like the *bzzz* sound. How about you?

I like the *bzzz* sound. It calms me. Maybe that is why I became a beekeeper. I keep bees and help take care of their hives. I do this so I can collect honey. I am not too afraid of bees. I am careful, though. I know that a bee sting can be painful. It also can be dangerous.

I wear special clothes to protect me. I wear a helmet to protect my head. I wear a veil to protect my face and neck. A veil is made of wire mesh. Mesh has tiny holes in it. This lets me breathe through the mesh. I can see through it, but the bees can't get in. It is most important to protect my face and neck from bee stings.

My white suit has long sleeves. My light-colored pants are long. I wear light colors because I don't want the bees to fear me. If they fear me, they might sting me. I don't want to look like one of their enemies. Their enemies are dark. Their enemies are bears, skunks, raccoons, and other animals.

I also wear boots. I tape my boots to my pants. If I don't, a bee could get inside. I'm not too afraid of bees, but I don't want to feel one crawling up my leg!



Buzz Words *(cont.)*

Name: _____

Part 1: Read each idea. Which source gives you this information? Fill in the correct bubble for each source. (Note: More than one bubble may be filled in for each idea.)

Information	Sources →	1	2	3
1. Bees are insects.		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Bees make a “bzzz” sound.		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Bears are the enemies of bees.		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Part 2: Fill in the bubble next to the best answer to each question.

4. Which of these statements is **not** true about a bee’s wings?

- Ⓐ They flap twice as fast as a mosquito’s wings.
- Ⓑ They flap half as fast as a mosquito’s wings.
- Ⓒ They are smaller than a butterfly’s wings.
- Ⓓ They make noise when they flap.

5. Which shows the correct order, **from slow to fast**, of how these insects flap their wings?

- Ⓐ butterfly, mosquito, bee
- Ⓑ butterfly, bee, mosquito
- Ⓒ mosquito, bee, butterfly
- Ⓓ bee, mosquito, butterfly

6. Look at the teacher’s name in Source 2. What does his name most sound like?

- Ⓐ a bee buzzing
- Ⓑ a person snoring
- Ⓒ a car horn honking
- Ⓓ a person sneezing

Part 3: Search Source 3 of “Buzz Words” to find the following:

7. a word that means the opposite of “friends” _____

Name: _____

Part 4: Use the sources to answer the following questions.

8. Your friend is going to watch a baseball game outdoors. She is worried that a bee will land on her and sting her. Tell her what would be the best color to wear to keep this from happening. Explain the reason for your answer.

9. Look at the picture to the right. Find the arrow. To what piece of clothing does it point?

Find the sentence in Source 3 that gives you this information. Write that sentence here:



10. Look at the sentences below. Circle each onomatopoeia word.

I walked through the flower patch at the edge of the woods. A calm breeze whirred through the leaves of the oak trees. A bird chirped in one tree.

Another bird squawked as it flew over my head.

Answer Key

Unit 1. Primary Colors (page 6)

Part 1

1. Source 1
2. Source 3
3. Source 3

Part 2

4. A
5. B
6. B

Part 3

7. schooling

Part 4

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 8. Top Light | Middle Light | Bottom Light |
| Line 1: red | Line 1: yellow | Line 1: green |
| Line 2: primary | Line 2: primary | Line 2: secondary |
| Line 3: stop | Line 3: caution | Line 3: go |

9. *In the box:* “3. not made from or caused by anything else”

On the lines: Accept appropriate responses. Students may say this definition fits because the three primary colors are not made from anything else. They can be mixed together to make other colors, but other colors cannot be mixed together to make them.

10. Accept appropriate answers. Students may say that it was a good idea to add a yellow light. This is especially true for today’s drivers. Most listen to music or talk on the phone, and so they would not be able to hear a buzzer.

Unit 2. Buzz Words (page 10)

Part 1

1. Sources 1 and 3
2. Sources 1, 2, and 3
3. Source 3

Part 2

4. A
5. B
6. D

Part 3

7. enemies

Part 4

8. She should wear white or another light color. Bees are more likely to attack someone wearing dark colors because their enemies are dark-colored. If a bee thinks you are an enemy, it might sting you.
9. The arrow is pointing to the veil. “I wear a veil to protect my face and neck.”
10. Circled words: whirred, chirped, squawked

Unit 3. Star Light, Star Bright (page 14)

Part 1

1. Source 2
2. Sources 1, 2, and 3
3. Sources 1 and 3

Part 2

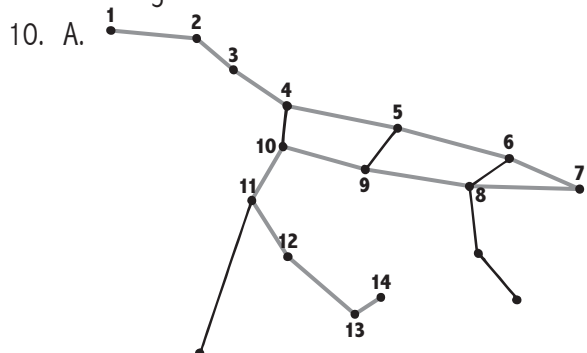
4. C
5. D
6. C

Part 3

7. Earth

Part 4

8. A star would be more likely to look as though it is twinkling on a very windy day. That is because you would be looking at the light through a lot of moving air. Source 1 explains this.
9. Accept appropriate responses. Example: Tim’s dad said, “Sirius is a part of Canis Major. It is the brightest star in Canis Major. In Latin, the words ‘Canis Major’ mean ‘big dog.’ Because Sirius is the brightest star in this constellation, it is often called the ‘Dog Star.’”



- A. Big Bear
- B. Big Bear
- C. Accept appropriate responses.
- D. Accept appropriate responses.