"Bee" The Inventor

STEM Activity and Coloring Book
“BEE” THE INVENTOR

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Worker bees:

Dwij
Shagun
"Bee" The Inventor™
Invention coloring Book

Help Shagun and Dwij build a new home

My name is ___________________ and I am an Inventor!
Dwij and Shagun are leafcutter bees. They happily live in a great big field in the USA.
Leafcutter bees, like Shagun and Dwij, spread pollen from plant to plant. Pollen helps fruits and vegetables to grow. This is called pollination.

They find snug little twigs, logs and bushes to live in near their big field. They use cut up bits of leaves to help make their nests comfy and safe.
Sometimes they are sad because their homes get damaged. Can you match the objects with the damage they would cause?
Shagun and Dwij are in your backyard looking for a new, snug little house. Can you help them?
First take a look at the needs of their new house...

籼 The house must be off the ground as tall as you are.
籼 Leafcutter bees need hollow tubes to nest in.
籼 Smallest could be = 1/16 of an inch (Like a drink box straw)
籼 Largest could be = 1/2 inch (Like a garden hose)
籼 Leafcutter bees need bundled tubes to live near each other.
籼 The house must provide **shelter** from the rain.
籼 The house must protect leafcutter bees.
Inventors design new things. Invent a house for Shagun and Dwij. Draw your invention here.
Now it's time to make a “practice” house for Shagun and Dwij. Inventors call this a **prototype**.

Ask a grown up to help you. Use things from the recycle bin to make a prototype. Do you have other free things that you can build with?
Shagun and Dwij want to hear all about your prototype. Share your ideas with them and others.

1. How is it useful? ______________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

2. How is it special and unique? ________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________

3. What will Shagun and Dwij like best about the house you made? ________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Help Shagun and Dwij’s leafcutter bee friends outside. Let’s build a real house for them!

Use your design and prototype to help you build a real leafcutter bee house for outside.

Use materials that a grown up helps you find.
Trace and color some new words you have learned

Pollinate
Taking pollen from one plant to another

Prototype
A practice model of your design

Shelter
A safe place

Invention
A useful thing that solves a problem in a new way
Information On Leafcutter Bees And Invention Resources

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY - BUILDING AND MANAGING LEAFCUTTER BEE HOUSES

PLANET BEE FOUNDATION - NATIVE BEE SERIES - LEAFCUTTER BEES

LEMELSON FOUNDATION - SMITHSONIAN - SPARK LAB - INVENTOR’S NOTEBOOK

INVENTION EDUCATION ORG

LEMELSON FOUNDATION

LEMELSON-MIT PROGRAM