



# Bee: A Peek-Through Picture Book

*Britta Teckentrup*

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**Fans of *Tree: A Peek-Through Picture Book* can now fly along with Bee on her very busy day!**

Through a hole in the book's cover, a bee is buzzing inside a flower. Peek into this bright and lively book and discover the big ways this little insect contributes to the beauty of the environment, from pollinating colorful flowers to buzzing about the bright and beautiful meadow.

With clever peekaboo holes throughout, each page reveals new flowers and plants, plus a look inside a beehive as the bees work together to help a plants grow.

Children will love seeing the details of a bee's active day as each page is turned, and along the way they'll learn about ways in which bees and plants works together to produce a healthy, beautiful environment.

And look for its companion books, *Tree*, *Moon*, and *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, in the same Peek-Through Picture Book series!

"Ample opportunities can be found to linger over the vibrant multimedia collages of meadows, woods, hedgerows, streams, and, most of all, the flowers bursting from the pages. An inviting introduction to the busy lives of honeybees."--*Booklist*

## Bee: A Peek-Through Picture Book Details

Date : Published January 31st 2017 by Doubleday Books for Young Readers (first published 2017)

ISBN : 9781524715267

Author : Britta Teckentrup

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# From Reader Review Bee: A Peek-Through Picture Book for online ebook

## Calista says

This book is beautiful. The art is stunning and I love that it is about bees! The text was written by Patricia Hegarty and it rhymes. The star of the show here is the bee and all the work it does to help make our world so beautiful. It's an ode to the bee. This book made me happy.

My nephew enjoyed this book. He wanted to turn all the pages before it was read to see the Peek-throughs. It was cute. My Niece enjoyed all the flowers in the book.

I want to see Britta's book Trees now. This was wonderful.

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## Rosie Potter says

Absolutely beautiful book, in both the sense of the words and the illustrations. Lovely to read aloud, with rhyming and short sentences. A really clear and simple introduction to the bee's crucial role in the pollination cycle. At the same time, the painstakingly detailed illustrations on each page are so attentive, and you could probably study one page for a whole lesson. With this in mind I would recommend it for any primary age group, from Early Years (as a simple way to discuss nature and the bee's role) to Year 6 (by discussing pollination and climate change and the importance of bees). This book also lends itself to a whole host of cross-curricula learning opportunities such as:

English: The wonder of the written word. Writing your own story about important animals and insects.

Writing from the perspective of the bees/flowers. The use of rhyme within the book and how we can apply that in our own writing.

Maths: The geographical shape of most of the illustrations, as well as using the pictures in counting activities.

Science: Introduction to pollination. Introduction to food chains. Introduction to mini-beasts and insects.

Active fieldwork opportunities to plant flowers and introduce 'bee-hotels' as well as examining other insects in their natural habitat.

Art: Creating your own interpretation of the book, copying key elements of design from the book (cut-out parts, bright colours etc.), discussions about use of colour and detail within the book and why this might have been done.

PSHE: Implications for the wider environment, social justice, climate change, what we can do to help insects and bees.

Overall, a really lovely book, appealing to all ages which can be applied to most subject areas.

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## KC says

A wonderful rhyming book with fantastic illustrations.

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## **paula says**

I. Just. Love. This. Art. And a good use of die-cuts.

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## **Lynn says**

The "Tree" peek though book works very well, but something is missing here for me. The last few pages are effective, showing the bees flying around, but what is the point of having a peek-through without purpose? Many of the cutouts are not placed within interesting or meaningful images.

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## **Kathryn (Nine Pages) says**

Review originally published on my blog, *Nine Pages* .

This is not the first of Teckentrup's books that I've read. Her strength I feel is in lyrically romanticizing the ordinary—thus far her subjects have always been also natural. This like *Tree* is more nonfiction than fiction, depicting the day and job of a worker bee and bees as pollinators. Many animals, including a bee in a peek-hole through each page, hide among the illustrations, making a fun spot-the-critter game as you read through the book. Teckentrup uses lyrical language and specific detail to paint her text. This made for a good side book to Guthrie and co.'s *Princesses Save the World*. A bit more on level for my youngest listeners and certainly much shorter, there's less—really no—problem here, certainly no talk of a global crisis, but it seemed a good way to introduce the concept of why bees are so important to an ecosystem.

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## **PWRL says**

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## **Les McFarlane says**

Lovely book. Great introduction to the bee's role in pollination.

So much to like about this book. I am lucky enough to have the hardback copy which has a gorgeous matt feel to the pages. The illustrations have a layered, detailed, delicate feel. Each one takes you head on into the action and each one has its own effective palette. I particularly like the song birds, thrushes I think they are. The meadow scene is another favourite, well lets be honest, there's none of it I don't like! The end papers are beauties, too.

I love some of the adventurous vocabulary used in the text. Lots to talk about. Words like, 'thrumming' 'quivers' 'dense' to name a few. I also like the use of the names of some plants and flowers native to England, 'rose' 'weeping willow'.

This book could lead into lots of different lines of interest apart from the obvious, pollination. It could be that the flowers take you off into looking at our native flowers and which attract the bees. This would make a

great part of an eco project. The protection of bees and their habitat is a hot topic at the minute and rightly so.

The Book of Bees , Piotr Socha & Wojciech Grajkowski would be a perfect accompaniment to this . Bee and Me , Alison Jay, a wordless picture book with its balance of fiction and fact would work alongside beautifully.

RSPB First Book of Flowers would help with taking interest into the plants & flowers. A Little Guide to Wild Flowers, Charlotte Voake is beautiful and would fit with this too.

I'm rambling, getting carried away with my school brain! Apologies!

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### **Stefanie says**

Yes, Britta, yes!

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### **Kristina Jean Lareau says**

A gorgeous peek-through book. At first I wondered about the necessity of the use of cut-outs in the first half: are they just a gimmick? But as the story progresses it becomes clear that no, the cut-outs add a layer of artistry that would be unattainable with any other technique.

Soft rhymes and bright colors make this a perfect read aloud.

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### **Stephanie Bange says**

“Gathering nectar as she goes,  
From every foxglove, every rose,  
Dusty with pollen, the little bee  
Buzzes, buzzes, busily.”

This gentle, rhyming story details the activity of one little bee and how it pollinates flowers while on its mission collecting nectar for the colony. With text easy enough for beginning readers, non-readers will enjoy poking fingers through the die-cut pages. Teckentrup’s bright mixed media artwork is extraordinary, setting this work apart from the average story about bees. The book is filled with visual details – flowers and fauna in forest and field – and visual facts – bees are not solitary creatures.

An excellent choice for including in a unit on bees, insects, and pollination. For K-1

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### **Barbara says**

Just as impressive and beautiful in its own way as the earlier Tree: A Peek-Through Picture Book, this handsome volume arrives just at the right time as bees have been added to the Endangered Species List in the

United States for the first time. For anyone not already charmed by bees as they buzz through the air or not aware of the work they do in pollinating flowers, this book provides vivid examples and a reminder for the rest of us about just how important this species is. Each page is drenched in rich colors that seem to burst forth upon readers' eyes. Rhyming text takes them through the journey of one bee as she moves from one spot to another, and then spreads the word to the rest of the hive that she's found a great place to harvest what they need for their food collection. The hexagonal die-cut shapes allow readers to take a peek at the lone bee as she labors and then reveal the others as they join her. Even from the cover which shows a bee in the midst of a flower in a die-cut pays homage to the fact that the cells in the bees' hives are hexagonal in shape. Indeed, words hardly do justice to the lovely images in this picture book. Undoubtedly, science teachers will want to add it to their collection so that it can provide a starting place for various lessons. Perhaps one of their young charges can figure out some ways to make sure that bees can bounce back and thrive in the world around us. Surely, life as we know it depends on them for many different reasons.

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### **Carolyn says**

Visually this picture book is stunning, and the simple (but important) story of a little bee pollinating every flower is just lovely.

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### **Sara Grochowski says**

Britta Teckentrup's books are absolutely gorgeous. Cannot wait to see a finished copy of this, rather than just the illustrations and text!

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### **Izzy says**

Lovely book which would work really in a science class to help explain the importance of bees and pollination.

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