

Pollinator Count Insect Guide

Here are **10 groups of insects** for you to look out for.

All **bees** and **wasps** have long antennae (feelers) and small eyes.

Bumblebees and look-alikes



- large round bees that are **fuzzy all over**
- black with bands (yellow, white or orange), or they can be all-over gingery-blonde



Honeybees



- **stripy orangey-brown**
- have a **flat and wide back leg** to carry pollen, often be seen on the back leg



Solitary bees



- come in **many colours and sizes.**
- smaller than bumblebees, they may be slightly hairy but **aren't fuzzy all over**



Wasps



- obvious antennae, a **narrow waist** and **do not have hairy bodies**
- they can be striped yellow and black, shiny, or black



WATCH OUT! some black and yellow striped insects are actually **flies!** Don't use colour and pattern as a way of identifying wasps and bees – look for the **long antennae.**

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TOP TIP: If it's black and yellow striped, check the size of the eyes and antennae.

All **flies** in the two groups below have short antennae (feelers) and large eyes

Hoverflies



- have **tiny antennae** often **hover still** in the air before landing (bees and wasps have a more direct flight)
- **often stripy** but this can be hard to see on smaller hoverflies



Other flies



- many shapes and sizes
- many have **bristly bodies**
- can be shiny green or blue, or black, or dull brown or orange



Butterflies and moths



- **brightly coloured, patterned, brown** or **white** wings



Beetles



- can be **colourful and shiny**, or **black and brown**
- have a **straight line** down the **middle** of their **back**



Small insects



- anything less than 3mm long (**smaller than a grain of rice**)



They might be beetles, bugs, or flies, but it's hard to tell.

Other insects



- anything that does not fit into the other categories

