

# Nat Theo Club

## FIELD NOTES

ISSUE #57



### Bee Swarm

#### INSECTS

#### NATURE SAFETY



Always be careful and give bees space, asking permission from your parent or caregiver to go near bees. If they feel threatened, they can sting a person, which can be dangerous. Appreciate their amazing design in a safe manner.

#### FUN FACT

Nurse worker bees create a substance called royal jelly. This is given to the larval (baby) bees but also given in higher amounts to the future queen bee. The queen is the only one that lays eggs in the hive.



### HAVE YOU EVER BRAVELY TRIED SOMETHING NEW?

While working for the Warner Park Nature Center, my team found a bee swarm in a tree a few feet off the ground. Many people fear bee swarms because they think they will harm people. As you learn about these swarms, you will understand that the bees are not normally aggressive during this time.

Bees will swarm if their hive is full and crowded. The queen bee will lead a group of bees to a nearby tree to wait while scout bees go on a search for a new home. Before leaving the hive, the bees fill their bellies with honey for their journey. With bellies full, they are less apt to sting. They will hunt for food near their new home when it is time.

While watching the bee swarm in the park, the team of naturalists decided to gently touch the swarm. I didn't want to miss this opportunity even though I was very nervous. I slipped my hand into the mass of bees. It was amazing. I could feel their little wings fluttering against my skin. Because I moved slowly and very gently, they didn't feel threatened or sting me.

Bees are amazing and complex communal creatures. Many people care for bees and provide hives for them. In return, the bees share their yummy honey with us. Have you been brave enough to try something new?

Jesus encouraged his followers in Mark 16:15 to "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation." I bet that they were a little afraid to go to new places and talk to new people. But they were brave and the gospel of Jesus changed many lives through their testimony. God wants us to be brave to share about the good news that we have received so that others may be saved. Who do you know that needs to hear about Jesus?

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