

## From nectar to honey



© Peter Buwalda

The foraging bee sees ultraviolet light reflected on the petals of a flower. It tells her where the nectar is.



© Peter Buwalda

The bee lands on the flower. She sucks the nectar droplets and stores them in her honey sac.



© Peter Buwalda

When she is full, the foraging bee flies back to the hive. Inside her honey sac, the nectar begins to turn into honey.



© Peter Buwalda

Inside the hive, the foraging bee regurgitates the nectar and passes it to a hive bee.



© Peter Buwalda

The hive bees deposit small droplets of nectar on the honeycomb walls. Hive bees fan their wings over the honeycomb. Water evaporates out of the nectar.



© Peter Buwalda

When the cell is full and the honey is ripe, hive bees seal the cell with a thin layer of wax. The wax prevents the honey from absorbing water from the surrounding air and spoiling.

**This lesson plan was produced by the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum.**

[View all of Ingenium's learning resources on our website.](#)