

As part of a science week, the Year 6 class received a visit from a beekeeper. They later wrote a recount of the afternoon. Writing is independent and was completed over two sessions.

The Beekeeper

On Thursday of last week, our class had a fascinating visit from a beekeeper. I and my friend Elsa, were chosen to meet Mr. Smith, who was waiting in the entrance at the front of the school. We helped carry his equipment into class and whilst Elsa sat down, I formally introduced him.

Mr. Smith showed us a slide show that he had prepared in advance. There were many interesting facts in it, such as information about habitat, honey, Queen bees, larvae and much more too. Also in the presentation were questions, like "how fast can a bee fly?" At the end of the slide show, Mr. Smith announced that we could all have a little pot of honey to take home. The honey was fresh from his hive.

To interest us further, Mr. Smith showed us some of ~~the~~ equipment that he uses for handling his bees. When he put on his beekeeper ~~coat~~ suit to show us how it looked, a dead bee, which was on the folds of his coat, fell off. It made Elsa jump!

Mr. Smith also showed us his smoker (used for controlling his bees), some propolis (a sticky substance, collected like pollen), and some different types of pollen. Black pollen, he told us, came from poppies, brown pollen from clover and orange pollen came from dandelions, but the best pollen was yellow and came from rapeseed. The propolis smelt faintly of treacle, while the clover ^{pollen} smelt like raisins.

After this, Mr. Smith chose to show us his hive. Unfortunately, because it was ~~so~~^{very} cold, he couldn't bring in any bees, but he had put pictures in the hives to show what it looked like. It took Mr. Smith a while to undo the clips on the hive, in the background our teacher was finding the questions that we had prepared for him to answer.

Once he had showed us the hive, Mr. Smith answered our questions; some of his answers were fascinating. At the end of the visit we thanked Mr. Smith and I gave out the honey, which, to be truthful, was ~~also~~ absolutely delicious.

I thought we were very lucky to have a visit from Mr. Smith because I am fascinated by bees.