

## Bumblebees enjoy playing with balls

New research shows that bees may be more intelligent than we previously thought and that they like to play! Watch the video to find out more.

### Before reading

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

### Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

#### Vocabulary

1. .... an indication
2. .... sophisticated
3. .... inanimate
4. .... cooperatively
5. .... a hive
6. .... pollination
7. .... a workhorse
8. .... inducement

#### Definition

- a. together with others towards a shared aim
- b. the reason for doing something
- c. intelligent and able to do complex tasks
- d. someone who does a lot of work, especially difficult or boring work
- e. a sign that something is true
- f. the process in which pollen is taken from one plant to another so that new seeds can be produced
- g. a place where bees live
- h. not living

## Tasks

### Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	<b>Answer</b>	
	True	False
1. The research shows that bees are less intelligent than we previously imagined.	True	False
2. This is the first time that researchers have seen bees playing.	True	False
3. Bees in hives usually work independently and alone.	True	False
4. Bees are essential for the environment because they pollinate plants.	True	False
5. The bees' ages made a difference in how much they enjoyed playing.	True	False
6. Female bees rolled the balls for a longer time than male bees.	True	False

### Task 2

Put the words and phrases in order to make sentences.

1. playing with    and dogs    Bumblebees enjoy    as humans    do.    balls, just
2. imagined.    Insect minds    more sophisticated    might have    are far    than we
3. are more    The research suggests    we previously    complex than    thought.  
that their minds
4. known    cooperatively    Bees    in hives.    to work    are
5. and brains, they're just    being just    nature's workhorses.    their tiny size  
far from    Despite
6. without    The bees    inducement.    showed    any extra    their playful side

### Discussion

What are your favourite insects?

## Answers

### Preparation task

1. e
2. c
3. h
4. a
5. g
6. f
7. d
8. b

### Task 1

1. False
2. True
3. False
4. True
5. True
6. False

### Task 2

1. Bumblebees enjoy playing with balls, just as humans and dogs do.
2. Insect minds are far more sophisticated than we might have imagined.
3. The research suggests that their minds are more complex than we previously thought.
4. Bees are known to work cooperatively in hives.
5. Despite their tiny size and brains, they're far from being just nature's workhorses.
6. The bees showed their playful side without any extra inducement.