

PROGRAM BROCHURE • AGES 5-18 • ADULTS & COMMUNITY GROUPS



CONNECT • EXPLORE • SUSTAIN

Beginner & Youth Workshops

School, Youth & Community Bee Programs

Live observation hives, real comb, hands-on builds and field visits — brought to your classroom, hall or our Princeton apiary by Master Beekeeper Mark Vanderende.

"HAVE FUN WITH YOUR BEES"

Thirty years of hands in the brood nest.

I am Mark Vanderende, a Master Beekeeper working out of Princeton, British Columbia. I keep bees in the Similkameen — split-rail cattle fields, dry grass and mountain ridgelines — and I teach the way I keep: honestly, in the open air, with the frames in our hands.

My teaching follows 4H: Happy, Healthy, Heavy and Harmony. nucleus-yard model. What I bring to a room of students is not a slideshow: it is a living colony behind glass, real capped honey to hold, a smoker to smell, and stories of big failures that became big successes.

My goal is to mentor the next generation of beekeepers — and to send every child home with one thing they can do for pollinators tomorrow.

HOW I DELIVER

- In your classroom — sealed glass observation hive, bee-free comb, kid-sized veils, smoker and hive-tool kit. One table, 15 minutes to set up.
- In the field — your group at our Princeton yard, suited up, opening a real colony under supervision.
- Hands-on builds — mason bee homes, salve or soap making, and pollinator garden planting as add-on stations.
- Story-led — the Beginner & Youth Workshops keynote, with laughter, wit, and the honest failures behind the successes.

WHAT EVERY SESSION IS BUILT ON

The 4H standard, the LISTEN practice and HiveVerity — scaled to the grade, never dumbed down.

Happy, Healthy, Heavy, Harmony. Students learn to score a colony the same way an adult beekeeper does, in language matched to their age — and HiveVerity, read the hive and prove the story, shows them how to back what they see with evidence. Outcomes map to BC Science big ideas on life cycles, ecosystems, biodiversity and sustainability, plus Applied Design and Food Studies at the senior grades. Teachers receive the outcome list before the visit for their own planning.

A real colony, at eye level, in your room.



Nothing gets out and nobody is stung: the observation hive is a fully sealed two-frame colony behind glass. Students find the queen, watch nurse bees on brood, hold bee-free comb, try on a veil, and walk a waggle-dance floor map. Tasting of honey, pollen and wax is always opt-in, with allergy and EpiPen protocols confirmed with staff in advance.

FOUR AGE BANDS, FOUR SETS OF OUTCOMES

AGES 5-7 · K-2

45-60 min

Meet the bees

Queen, worker, drone · find the queen · why bees visit flowers · calm, safe behaviour.

AGES 8-10 · GR 3-5

60-75 min

How a colony works

Egg to capped brood on real comb · read a frame · pollination and the food they ate this week.

AGES 11-13 · GR 6-8

75-90 min

The superorganism

One organism holding 35 °C · the waggle dance as data · a simplified LISTEN observation · first steps of the 5-Point Scorecard.

AGES 14-18 · GR 9-12

90 min – half day

Field science & careers

Score a colony on 4H · a full five-area 5-Point Scorecard and what the score says · local pollinator pressures · pathways into apiculture and food science.

ON THE TABLE

Glass observation hive · drawn comb and capped honey frames · kid-sized veils and jackets · cold smoker and beekeeper kit · hive box cutaway · pollen, wax and honey tasting flight · waggle-dance floor map · take-home field cards, one per student.

Suit up in a working yard.

Princeton apiary visits for classes, clubs, scouts and families.

Field days run at our apiaries outside Princeton: split-rail cattle fields, dry grass and Similkameen ridgelines. Groups suit up in provided veils and jackets, walk the yard, open a colony under close supervision, and see extraction and the honey house. Weather-dependent and capped by group size for safety; first-aid kits with EpiPens are on site at all times, and allergy declarations are collected in advance.

- Half-day field visit, 2.5–3 hours, up to 20 students with adult supervisors.
- Full apiary walk-through: hive anatomy, inspection, extraction, tasting.
- Suits, veils, gloves and tools provided; closed-toe boots and long trousers required.

WHERE WE TRAVEL

Princeton and the Similkameen Valley, Merritt, Penticton, Kelowna and the Okanagan, Kamloops, Vernon, Metro Vancouver and beyond. The first 60 km each way is included; beyond that, travel is quoted at \$0.75 per additional kilometre round trip, with overnight costs added for anything past a day's drive.

Two or more sessions booked on the same trip share one travel charge — schools in the same district are encouraged to book together.

HANDS-ON ADD-ON STATIONS

Three builds they take home.



Build a mason bee home

Cut, drill and bundle a bee hotel from untreated offcuts and bamboo. Mounted at school or taken home; occupancy logged through spring.



Make a salve or soap

Melt local beeswax and grass-fed tallow with foraged calendula, pour a labelled tin, and learn where every ingredient came from.



Plant a pollinator garden

Seed bombs, a planter or a school bed of lavender, borage and clover, with a bloom-and-visitor journal to keep.

FEES & BOOKING

Plain pricing, built for school budgets.

All prices in Canadian dollars, GST not charged. Fees below cover the session, all props, the observation hive and take-home field cards. Travel beyond 60 km is quoted separately. Invoices are issued to the school or organisation and payable by cash or Interac e-transfer.

PROGRAM	FEE
Single in-class session up to 30 students, 45–90 min	\$150
Per-student rate (large groups) 31+ students, minimum \$150	\$6 / student
Half day — two back-to-back sessions same school, same visit	\$250
Full day — three or four sessions same school, same visit	\$400
Field day at the Princeton apiary 2.5–3 hours, up to 20 students	\$16 / student
Keynote / assembly — Beginner & Youth Workshops whole school, club or corporate	from \$450
Homeschool & small group session up to 12 learners	\$120
Travel beyond 60 km each way shared across same-trip bookings	\$0.75 / km

ADD-ON HANDS-ON STATIONS • PRICED PER STUDENT

Mason bee home build kit, pre-cut lumber, bamboo, drilled and assembled in session \$8 / student	Salve or soap making 2 oz tin, beeswax, grass-fed tallow, foraged botanicals, labelled \$7 / student
Pollinator garden planting seed bombs or seedlings, planting plan and journal sheet \$5 / student	Finished mason bee house for gift shops, fundraisers and PAC prizes \$32 each

GOOD TO KNOW

One free session per year is reserved for a Similkameen school that cannot cover the fee — ask and it is yours, no paperwork. Every booking includes a teacher pack: lesson plans, printable quizzes with answer keys, craft sheets and a parent take-home guide, free at foragingbee.com/edubee.

Mini jars and honey straws for your class.

Two small formats work hard for schools: honey straws, which sell fast at concessions, sports days and market tables, and 45 ml mini hex jars, which make classroom gifts, teacher thank-yous and event favours. Both carry a QR code that opens the batch page — the exact yard, harvest week and floral breakdown of the honey inside, which turns a snack into a lesson.

SMALL FORMAT	PRICE
Honey straws — single Princeton wildflower honey, sealed straw	\$1.00
Honey straws — 25 pack classroom set or market pack	\$20
Honey straws — fundraiser case, 200 school resells at \$1 · \$80 profit per case	\$120
Mini hex jar, 45 ml — single kraft lid, batch QR, gift-ready	\$4.00
Mini hex jars — 24 or more event favours, teacher gifts, PAC baskets	\$3.25 each
Mini hex jars — custom label, 50+ your school crest or class artwork on the label	\$3.75 each
Fundraiser bundle — 100 straws + 24 mini jars typical class return \$165–\$190	\$135

ALSO FROM THE YARD

- Princeton Valley Gold — 750 ml Mason Jar (1 kg) \$25 · Quart Mason Jar (3 lb) \$35.
- Similkameen wildflower pollen, 125 ml — \$18.
- FORGE Working Hands \$25; Wild Healing Salve \$25; GUST lip shield \$12.
- FORGE Working Hands — everyday conditioning for dry, rough hands.
- Wedding, shower and corporate favour jars, 50 ml and 110 ml, with custom labels.

FREE TEACHER & PARENT TOOLKIT

EduBee at foragingbee.com/edubee holds BC-aligned lesson plans, printable quizzes with answer keys, craft sheets, group games and a homeschool unit. Ask for a teacher key and the whole library unlocks — no charge, whether or not you book a visit.

BOOK A VISIT

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