

KS1 Geography. UK locations (with William Whiskerson)

How honey is made

SONG: *William Whiskerson, mouse explorer!*

Finds adventure 'round every corner!
Where will he go? Who will he meet?
His amazing adventures will make you squeak!
William Whiskerson, mouse explorer!

NARRATOR: Here comes William Whiskerson, in his amazing travelling globe!

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Greetings, adventurers! I am William Whiskerson, the famous mouse explorer!

NARRATOR: William is in the countryside. He can see lots of fields, trees, and sheep, but which part of the United Kingdom is he in today?

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Cheese Phone, reveal my location!

NARRATOR: The Cheese Phone shows William where he is on a map of the world.

CHEESE PHONE: Hello, William. Today you're in Devon. Devon is in the southwest of England.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Look! I've got a message coming through on my Cheese Phone.

SOPHIE: Hello, William! I'm Sophie, and this is my friend Ben. Join us on a honey adventure!

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Oh, that sounds like a yummy adventure. Lock the location, Cheese Phone!

NARRATOR: The map shows William where to meet Ben and Sophie.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Explorers away!

Pleased to squeak you, Ben and Sophie!

SOPHIE and BEN: Pleased to squeak you, William!

SOPHIE: Welcome to my garden.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: It's a lovely garden. Let's go and find some flowers.

NARRATOR: The explorers show William their garden. The garden is full of beautiful flowers. Can you see the insects? They love the flowers too.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: What flowers are these?

SOPHIE: Lavender, William.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: They smell lovely.

[BUZZING]

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: What's that noise?

BEN: It's a buzzing bee.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: A bee?

NARRATOR: Bees have a very special job to do. They fly from flower to flower collecting a substance called nectar. Then they fly back to their hives and use the nectar to make honey. That's why they're called, honeybees. To find out more about bees, the explorers suggest that William meets their friend Ian, who is a bee-keeper on a farm.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Pleased to squeak you, Ian!

IAN: Pleased to squeak you, William!

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Do you look after the bees?

IAN: Yeah. I'm a bee-keeper.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: What does a bee-keeper do?

IAN: Well, it's my job to look after the bees and give them everything they need, so then they can make as much honey as possible.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Wow. Can we go and see them?

IAN: We certainly can. We've got some beehives just over here. But first of all, we're gonna have to get you dressed up in some protective equipment.

NARRATOR: Bees are lovely insects, but sometimes they can sting if they're frightened, so bee-keepers have to wear special clothes to protect themselves.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: I'm gonna get mine on too.

NARRATOR: They also cover their hands with gloves to stop them being stung.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: I'm ready.

IAN: Wow, you look great. You definitely won't get stung now.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Can we go and see the bees now?

IAN: Yeah. Let's go and see if they've made us any honey.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Explorers away!

IAN: Here we are, William. Here are the bees in their beehives.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: They look like little wooden huts.

IAN: Yeah, they are. We call them beehives, and that keeps out the weather, the rain, and the wind, and also makes it easier for us to collect the honey.

NARRATOR: These wooden hives are where the bees live, and sleep, and make their honey.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Can we go and have a closer look?

NARRATOR: Ian uses something called a smoker to make the bees feel calm and sleepy, so they're not frightened when the hive is opened. William and Ian don't want to get stung. Ian opens the top of the hive, lifting each layer and adding more smoke, to keep the bees calm. There are thousands of bees in the beehive.

IAN: Okay. In this top layer, William, is the honey, and that's what we're gonna take back to the farm today.

NARRATOR: Ian shows William a frame from lower down in the hive.

IAN: There is honey down here, but that's the honey that we leave for the bees, and let's just take a frame out.

NARRATOR: Ian shows William another frame from the hive. It's covered in honey. Yum, yum.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: So, is this the honey we're gonna take back to the farm?

IAN: Yeah, it certainly is. Would you like to have a look?

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Yes, please.

NARRATOR: Ian shows William some honeycomb.

IAN: So over here, these are the wax hexagonal cells, which the bees make themselves out of beeswax. If you look just here, these ones have got some honey in. They act as storage pots, so the bees have got somewhere to put the honey. And these ones, all of this, they're full cells, but they've been capped with wax to keep the honey fresh so the bees can eat the honey later on when they want it in the winter.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Will there be enough honey left for the bees?

IAN: Don't worry, William. We always leave enough for the bees.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Hello, Ben and Sophie!

SOPHIE and BEN: Hello, William!

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Where can we see some more bees?

BEN: At the bee farm.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Great. Explorers, away!

NARRATOR: Inside the bee farm, the explorers have a closer look at some bees and their hives. These bees are all kept behind glass, so you can get a good look without worrying about getting stung.

SOPHIE: Look, William!

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: What is it?

SOPHIE: There's lots of different types of bees.

NARRATOR: A group of bees that lives in a hive is called a colony. There are different types of bees in a colony. The bees that you see here are called worker bees.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Sophie, what are these bees doing?

SOPHIE: They're worker bees. They're working to make honey.

NARRATOR: Worker bees are female. They collect nectar and pollen from flowers to make honey. They also build the honeycomb inside the hive, where the honey is stored.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Those bees have got really big eyes.

NARRATOR: The bees with big eyes and square bodies are called drone bees. They are the male bees.

SOPHIE: Look, William. I found a queen bee.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Oh, wow!

NARRATOR: The queen bee is the most important bee of all. Can you see her? She is very large and has a long body.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: The queen bee looks different to the other bees.

NARRATOR: In every colony there is only one queen bee. The queen lays eggs called larvae. They're white and round. Can you see the larvae in the honeycomb? These larvae will grow into baby bees. Once the honey is made, the frames can be collected and put in a large machine called an extractor. Inside, the frames are spun around, separating the honey from the honeycomb. The runny honey is filtered through bags, which help to remove any wax. It is then heated to kill any germs. It's now ready to be poured into jars.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: This is where the honey has ended up, in the shop.

Oh, hello, Mr Bee. Where are you buzzing off to?

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Thank you, Sophie and Ben, for taking me on a buzzing honey adventure.

SOPHIE: You're welcome. Here's some honey to remember us.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Thank you. Squeak you later, everyone!

SOPHIE and BEN: Squeak you later, William!

NARRATOR: Can you remember where William went today? William visited his friends Sophie and Ben in their garden. They saw some flowers, and bees. William then went to meet Ian, a bee-keeper, and learned how bees make honey. Can you remember where the bees kept the honey? They kept it in a honeycomb. William also got to see different types of bees, like a queen bee. After his adventure, he even got his own jar of honey as a souvenir.

WILLIAM WHISKERSON: Time to fly, explorers! We're off on another adventure!

NARRATOR: See you soon, William!