



A STORY ABOUT HYMENOPTERA

LONY AND BEE

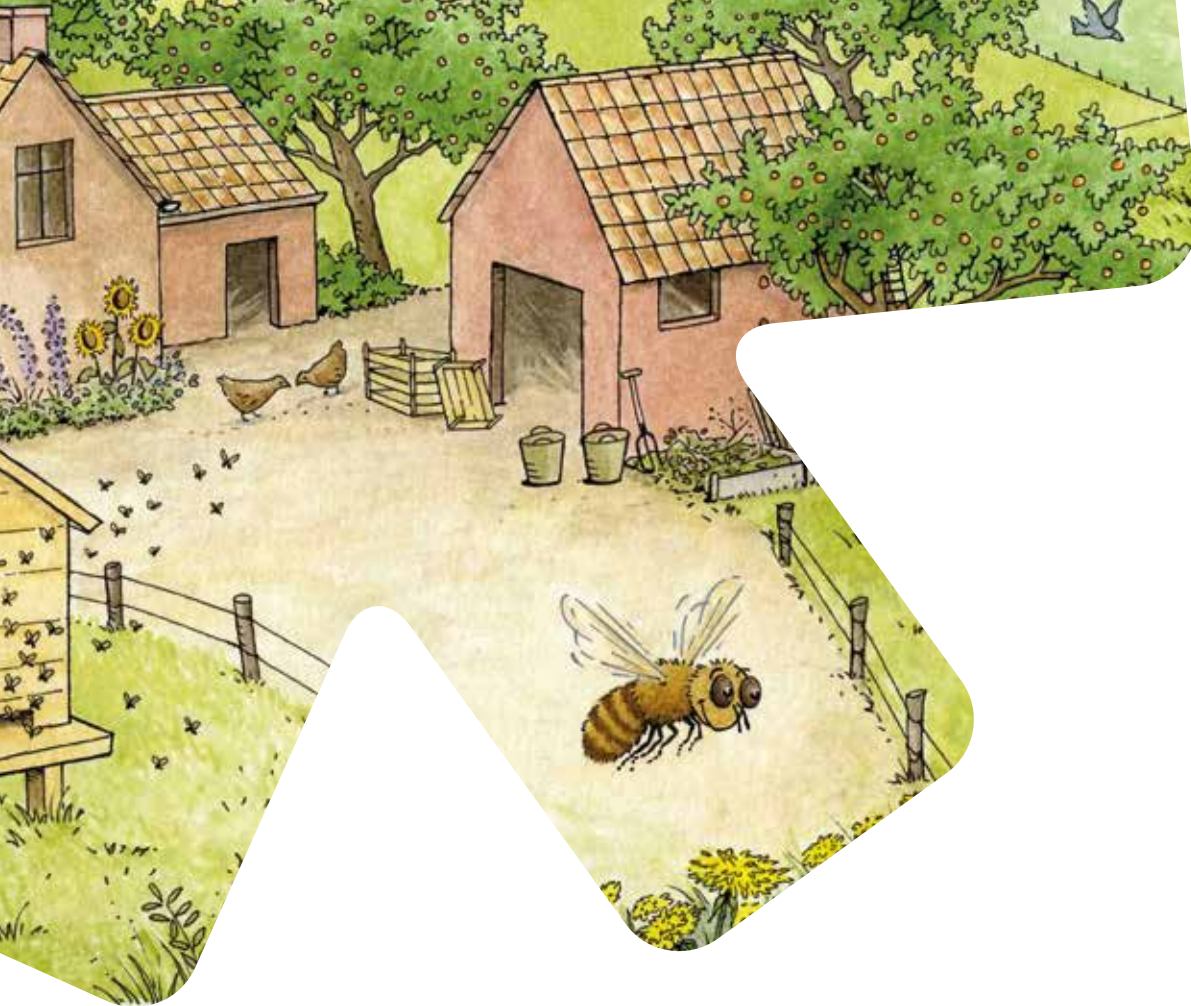
Illustrations: Jacques Debroux



VLAAMS-
BRABANT

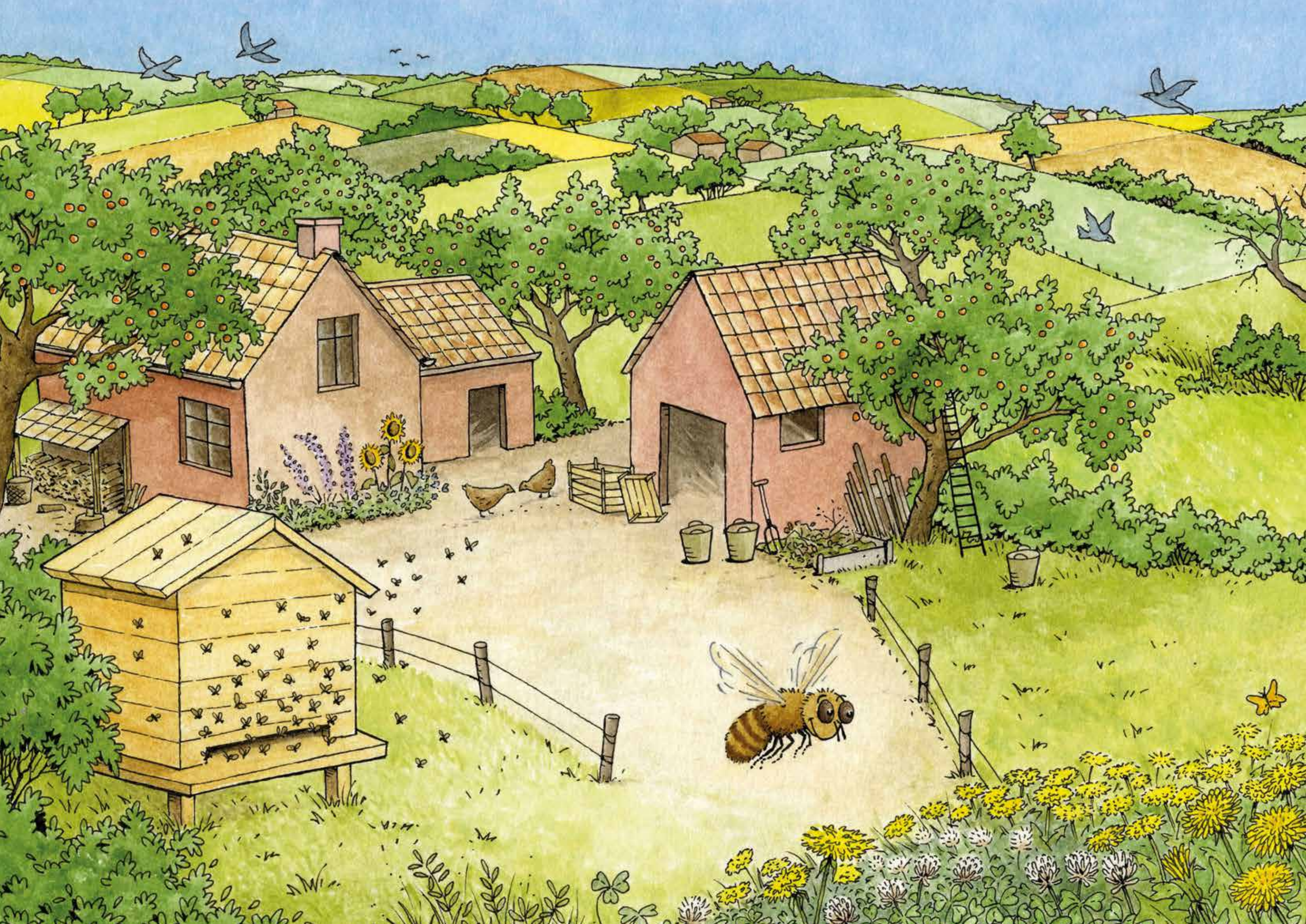


MOS
duurzame
scholen
straffe
scholen



Bee is ready. After a few weeks of hard work in the beehive, Bee is taking her first steps into the outside world.

For the first time, Bee is flying out. A bit further on she lands in a wonderful meadow with beautiful flowers. “It’s so beautiful here, so dazzling and there’s so much real good eating. I must pass this on to my sisters.”





“Mmmmm, it tastes heavenly.”

“Hey, move a bee-bit,” Bee says.

“You are a rare bee! Even your colours look different. Aren’t you related to the honeybee?”

“Honeybee family? No, I don’t know that family.”

“My name is Lony, Lony Solitary.”

“Nice to meet you! My name is Gather Honey, Bee Gather Honey.”





“Do you live nearby?” Lony asks?

“Yes, we’re living next to farmer Jeff’s apple farm. He is a beekeeper and he takes care of us. He’s a very sweet man. I am living in a large wooden hive with my sisters, brothers and the Queen. Farmer Jeff made these hives especially for us. We extract a sweet juice “nectar” from the flowers and process it into tasty honey and in exchange for the nectar we pollinate the flowers and so help fruit grow on the trees.”

“And you, Lony? Where do you live?”

“Come on, follow me... I am living in an old dead tree. There in an old woodworm hole, I made a cosy nest.”





“Do you live there all alone? And who do you converse to?”

“I don’t have time to talk to others. I’m always busy. For example, I have to find and clean more nest holes, look for pollen and roll little balls with it, lay eggs and then look for sand and loam to close the nest holes again.”

“Do you have to do all this alone? Wow!!! That’s a lot,” Bee says.

SOLITARY INSECTS (INTERESTING FACTS)

See the campaign material for schools at www.koesterburen.be

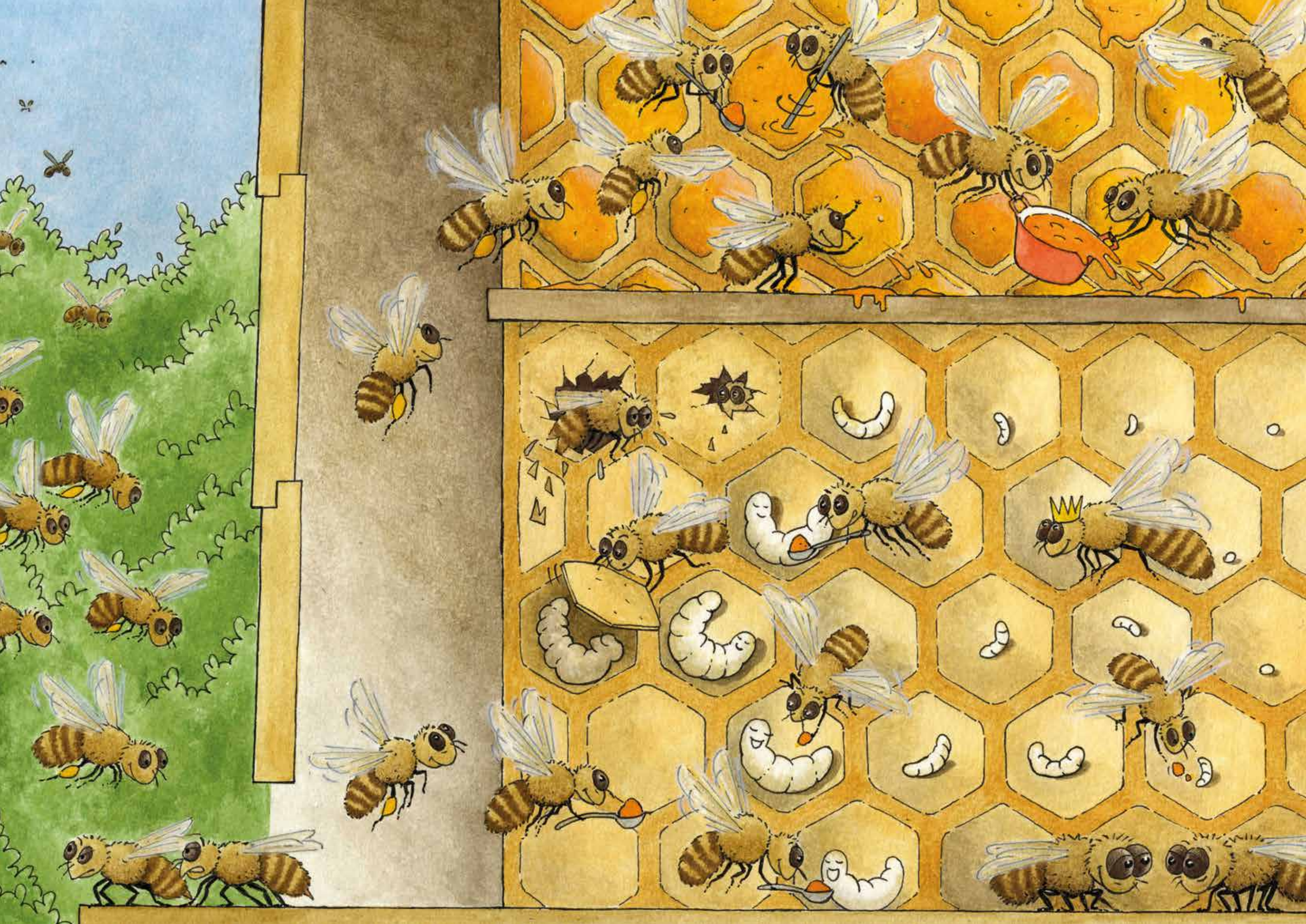


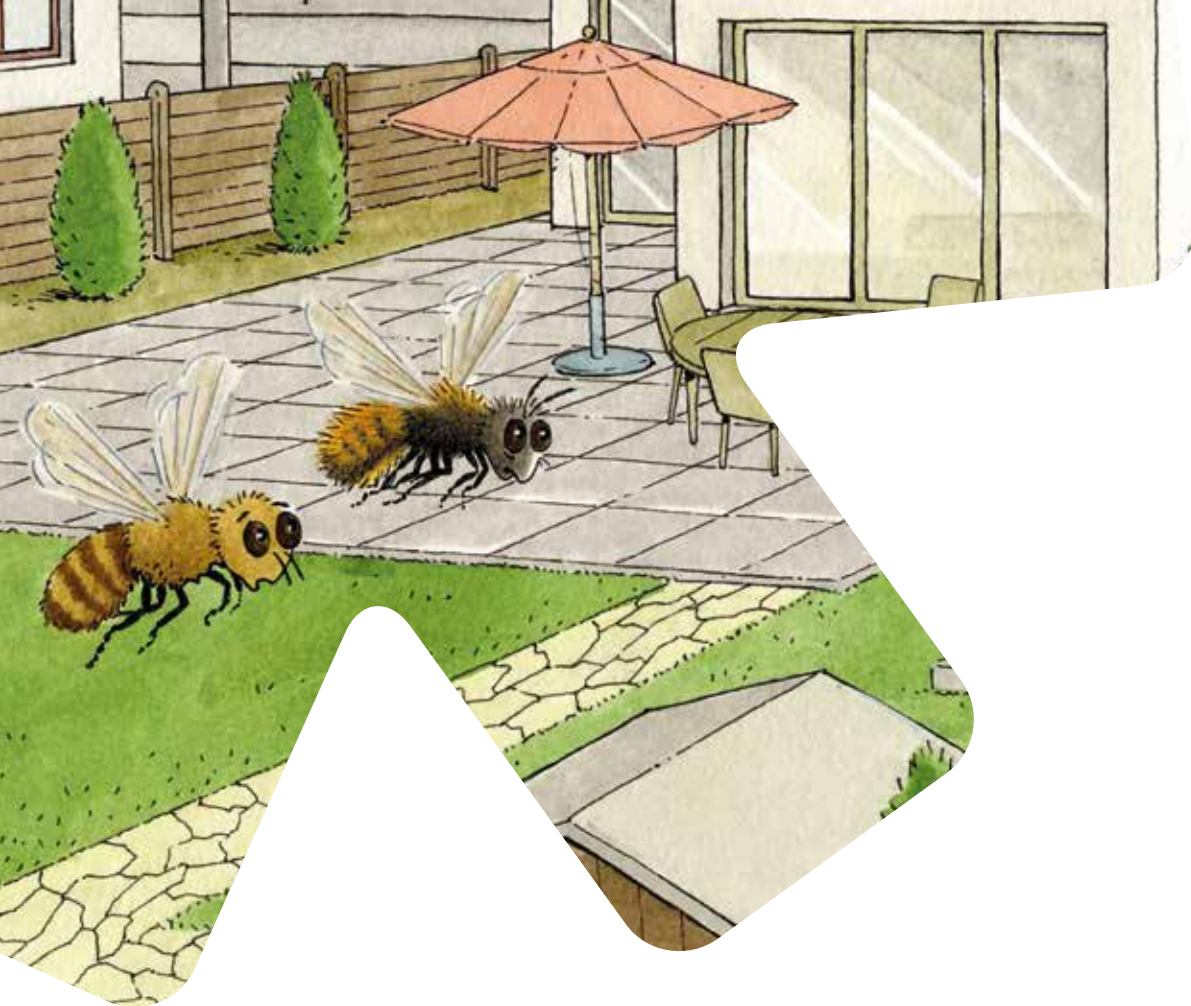


Together they also take a look at Bee's house. Lony doesn't know what she sees. What a crowd!

HONEYBEES (INTERESTING FACTS) - www.koesterburen.be

There are three kinds of bees in a honeybee colony: the queen, the workers and the drones. The queen lays about 2000 eggs a day. In addition to nectar, bees also collect pollen, which serves as food rich in nutrients. They collect these pollen in small clumps on their legs.





Lony and Bee soon become friends and are flying on together.

They are flying past a village.

“People should help us a little bit more with food, which is getting scarcer all the time.”





“Lony!!! Look there! That’s exactly what I mean! Such a garden with a lot of good eating.”

TIP!!!

Establish a link here to your own school garden/playground.

What does our playground look like?

Are there many flowers? Can bees find food here?

What can we do to help them?

Explore with the children where at school a flower meadow or flower field can be sown.





“Hello. Anyone home?” Bee asks.

Bumblebee comes around to see. “Can I help you?”

“Uh... We were just a little curious. Do you live in a mouse hole?

You can produce a loud humming, can’t you?”

“We work hard and hum at the same time. May I introduce myself “Bumblebee”.

“Nice to meet you”.

“I’m living here in this mouse hole with my sisters, brothers and our queen.

We are fond of tasty nectar.”

“We like meeting new friends,” Lony says.

“Are you going with us on a flight?”

“Yeah,” says Bumblebee. “We’re flying in... or rather... we’re flying out...”





“Stooooop or I... Bee is scared. An insect with a bright yellow-black colour comes flying at her.

“Stooooop or I... “

“Hahahaaaa... It’s just a joke... Don’t be afraid. I’m looking for insects.”

“Insects? But we are insects!” Bee shouts.

“No, not you! I’m looking for small spiders and insect larvae.

You are too tough... hahaha.”

“We, wasps, like eating sweet things ourselves, but our little ones prefer a fresh larva or spider”
wasp says.

“You do have a strange house,” Bee says.

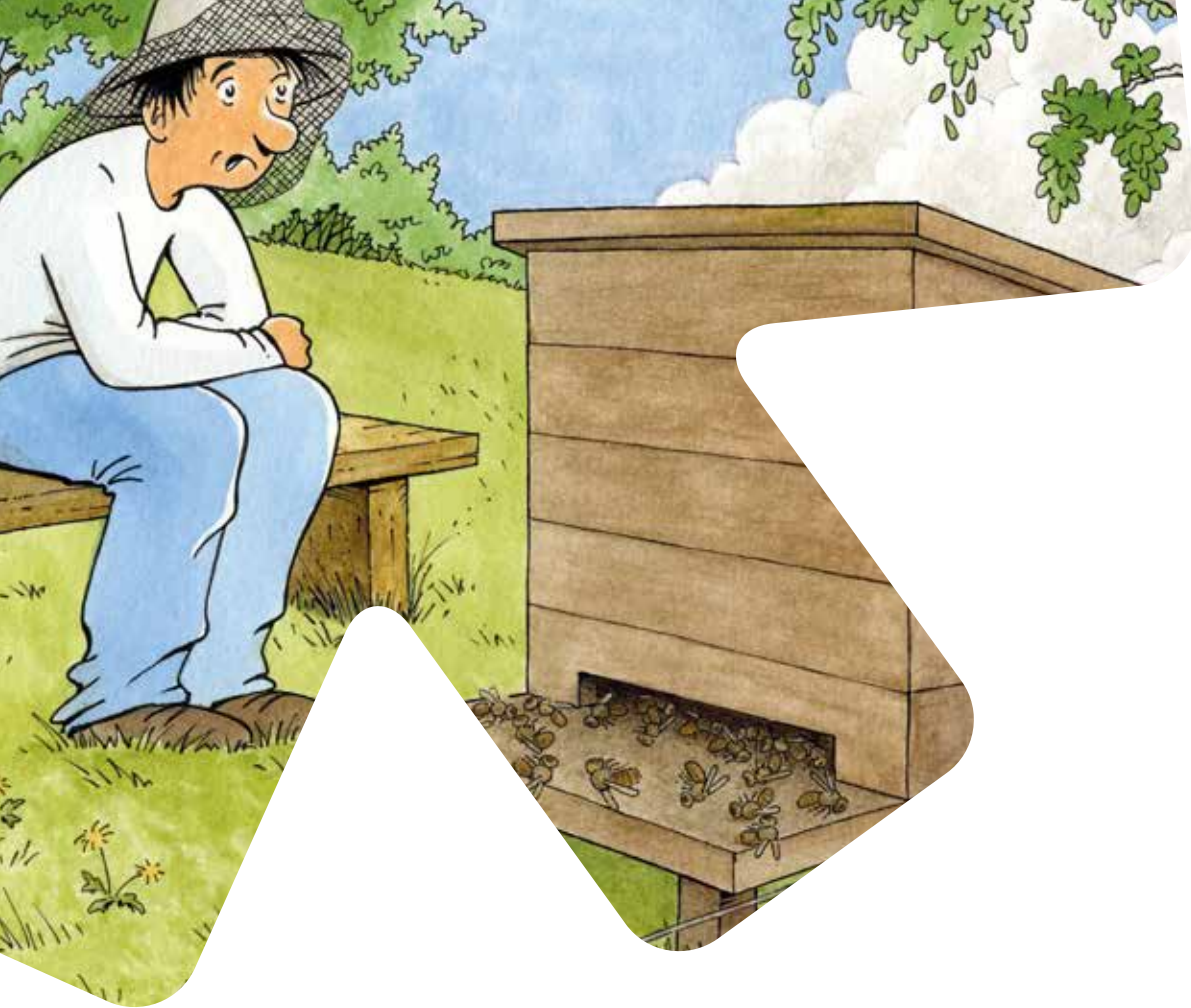
“We make our house with chewed tree bark,” wasp says.

“It’s a nice crowd here,” Lony cries.

“Wasp, come and eat!!!”

“Bye, I have to go. Glad to get to know you”, wasp says.





A bit further they come across an empty beehive with all bees dead.

“What has happened here?” Lony is startled.

1 bee is alive and is hiding in a corner.

“They all got sick. I don’t know where to go to?”

“Come with us”, Bie calls out. “You are welcome at home with us.

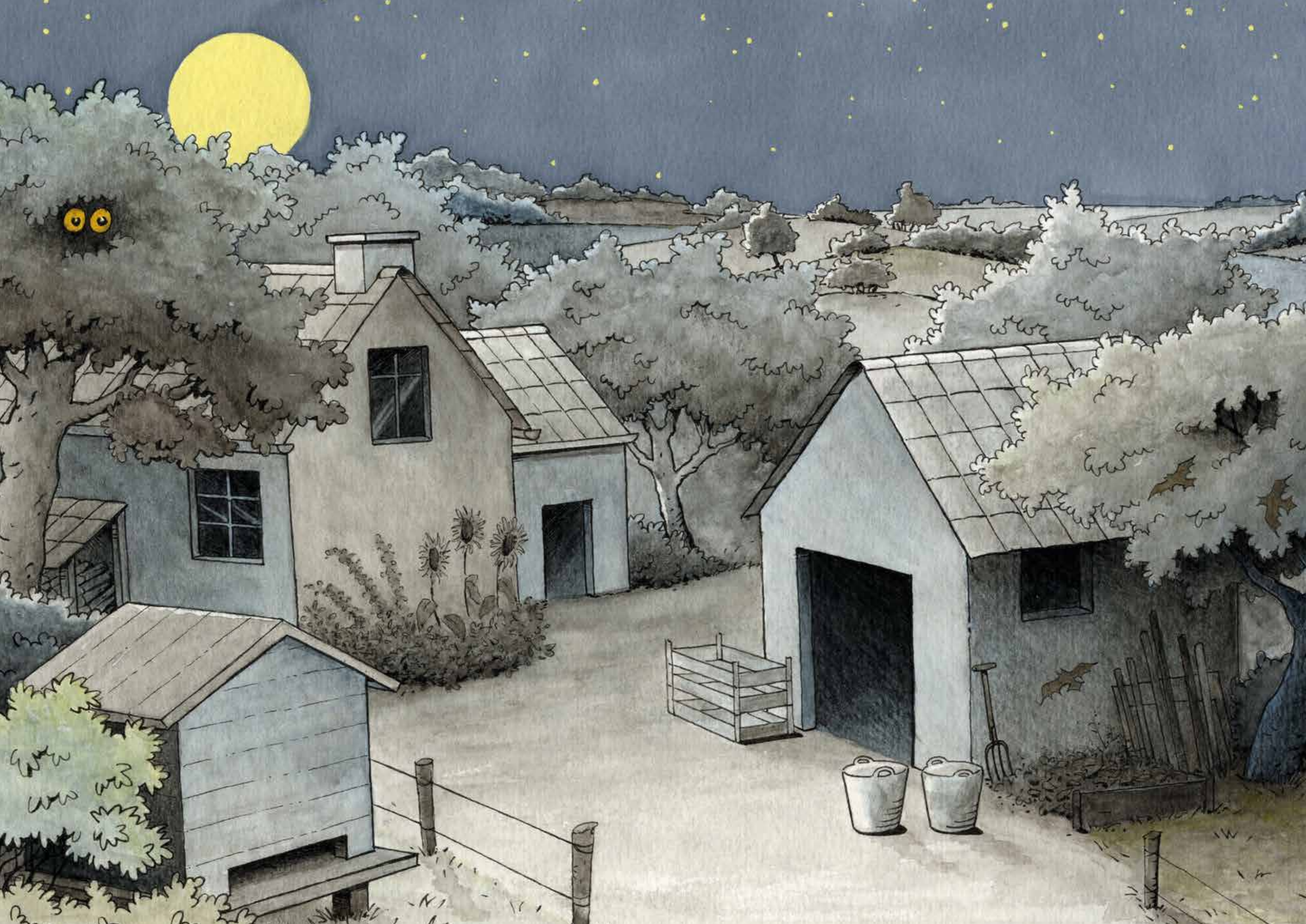
Our queen will receive you well, but then you must cooperate.

Come, let’s go get some nectar quickly and then go home rapidly.”





It's getting late and all of Bee's friends are flying back to their own nest.
Night falls and it's all gone remarkably quiet... or not?
Don't I hear a strange noise there?





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