



# FLOWERS FOR BEES

Bees love a backyard full of flowers with pollen and nectar. You can attract more bees to your backyard by planting specific types of flowers. Bees like simple-shaped flowers, or flowers with a single layer of petals. This is because it can be difficult to get their footing on flowers with layered petals. Having lots of bees in your backyard will ensure your plants are well pollinated and any fruit or vegetable plants you have will produce crops for you to enjoy.

## **You will need:**

- A mixture of bee-friendly seedlings or seeds to plant (see below)
- Compost
- A trowel
- An adult to help you

## **How to plant your flowers to attract bees:**

- If you have seedlings, dig small holes with a trowel, the same size as the punnet the seedlings come in. Put one seedling in each hole with some compost. Fill in the rest of the hole with soil.
- If you have seeds, dig small trenches and sprinkle some compost and seeds in the trenches. Fill in the trenches with the soil you dug out.
- Remember to water the seeds and seedlings so that they have enough moisture to flourish, but not so much that they drown.

## **An extra tip:**

Choose bee-friendly flowers like marigolds, chamomile, nasturtium, borage, purple tansy, Queen Anne's lace and sage. These plants attract bees and will also help protect your veggie crops from pests if you plant them nearby.

When your flowers start to bloom keep an eye out for bees!