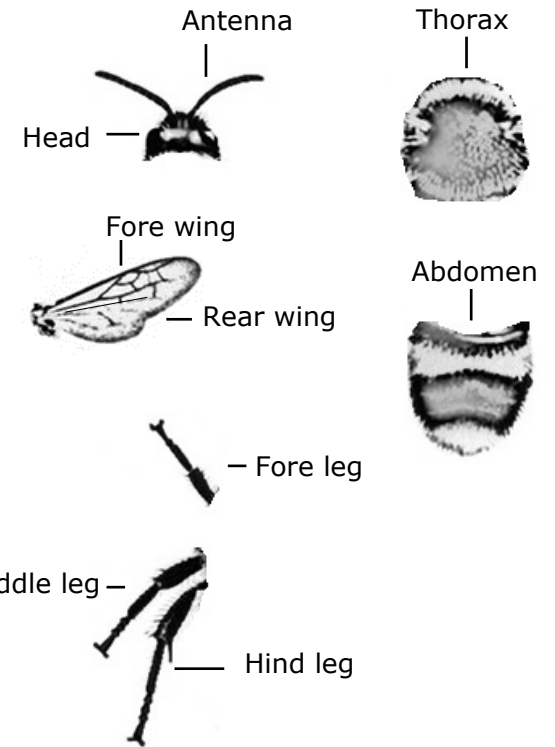
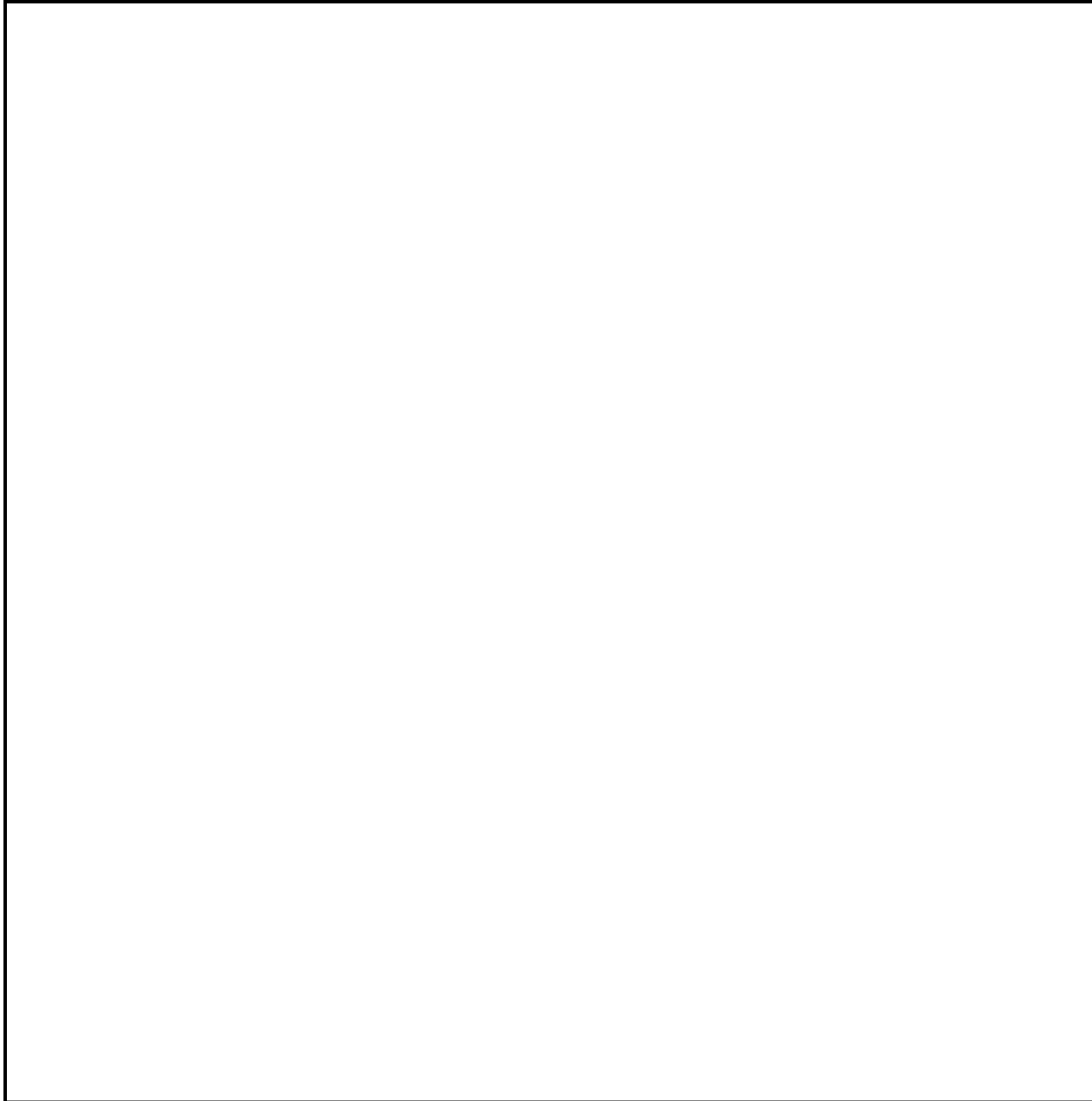


Draw a Bumblebee!

Draw a Bumblebee in the box. Use the pictures beside the box as a guide. Label the parts. Remember to put hair on your bumblebee.



Hint: The legs and wings are attached to the thorax. (chest).



How does the bumblebee's body help it collect nectar and pollen?

The large bumble bees you see early in the spring and summer might be new queens looking for a nest.

Medium size bumble bees that look similar could be worker bees foraging for pollen and nectar, to feed themselves, the queen and the young bee larvae.

Finally, the small bumble bees you see in the late in the season are probably males looking for mates. Can you tell the difference in their sizes?



Queen

Worker

Male

Actual size within typical range for Yellow-faced bumble bee.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture recognizes bumble bees as important crop pollinators.

Bumble bees pollinate plants when it is too cold or wet for other bees to fly. They arrive earlier in the spring and live longer in the fall.

They also start earlier in the day and stay out later than other bees.

Can you hear a bumble bee buzz when it is on a flower and not flying? Yes! That steady hum is the bumble bees vibrating their flight muscles (without beating their wings) to shake pollen loose from certain flowers that have extra sticky pollen!

This is called BUZZ pollination and only large pollinators like bumble bees can BUZZ pollinate.

Plants that depend on BUZZ pollination include tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, blueberries, cranberries, and more!



Tomatoes

Photo Credit: Oregon State University
<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/> cropped



130 Ankeny Hill Rd SE
Jefferson, OR 97352

ankenynaturecenter.org

Beautiful Bumble Bees

Have you seen a bumble bee lately? There are almost 50 kinds of bumble bees in North America and about 20 kinds in Oregon.

Most native bees are solitary – they nest and look for food alone. Bumble bees are an exception. Each year new queens make a nest for a colony of bees.



A yellow-faced bumble bee (*Bombus vosnesenskii*)

Photo Credit: Bobbie Allaire



Western bumble bee nest - excavated
Photo Credit: Jeff Everett USFWS