

## Make your very own bumblebees from the story!

Why not get creative and make some of your very own paper plate bumblebees! You can have lots of fun using these to tell the story of the Time to Read book, *The Bumblebear*, together.

Not only is this activity lots of fun, but it's also a great opportunity for children to develop a range of their fine motor skills through cutting, tearing, tracing and sticking.

### What you will need:

- ★ Paper plates
- ★ Glue
- ★ Sticky tape
- ★ Yellow, black and white paper (yellow and black paints or felt tips could also be used)
- ★ Scissors (child friendly)
- ★ Googly eyes (these are optional)
- ★ A black pipe cleaner (strips of black paper can also be used)
- ★ A circular object to trace around (a mug is the perfect size)



### How to make them:

- 1 Firstly, get the children to tear up the pieces of yellow paper into small squares. Tearing paper can be a bit tricky for some children but it's important to remember it doesn't need to be neat as this will create a wonderfully textured bumblebee's body.
- 2 Next, cover the paper plate with lots of glue and begin placing the teared-up bits of yellow paper all over. If you don't have any paper, you can just use paints or felt tips instead.

- 3 Now get the children to carefully cut 3 strips of black paper (roughly 2 cm wide) to make the stripes of their bumblebee and stick them on the plate vertically.

**Tip! – Mark out the lines for children to follow with their scissors if they need a little bit of extra help!**

- 4 Take your white paper and cut out a pair of wings for your bee. Stick them to the back of the plate using sticky tape.
- 5 To make the bumblebee's head, take your circular object and get the children to trace around it onto the black paper and then carefully cut the circular shape out.
- 6 Next, stick this to one edge of the paper plate and have some fun adding the googly eyes and a nice big smile.

**Tip! – Get the children to add a touch of their own personalities to their bumblebees. They might want to add some glasses like Amelia from the story!**

- 7 After, bend the pipe cleaner in half and stick it to the back of the head using the sticky tape to make the antennae.
- 8 Finally, have lots fun testing out your bumblebees and using them to re-tell the story together!

**Why not: Begin to talk about where bumblebees might live and what they eat. Discuss what other insects you might find around the school or at home.**

**We would love to see how your bumblebees turned out! Please send photos to: [timetoread@booktrust.org.uk](mailto:timetoread@booktrust.org.uk) or tweet @Booktrust using #TimeToRead**

