

Bee City USA Antennae & Wings Instructions (Great for Any Event)

Once the child agrees to go on the scavenger hunt, encourage them to become a pollinator of their choice (bee, flower fly, butterfly, or beetle) using Bee City USA's antennae poster shown below with artwork available at <https://www.beecityusa.org/resources.html>.



The kids love hearing that they can smell flowers and food with their antennae, and try flying for the first time with their new wings!

Make Inexpensive Pollinator Antennae

Supplies:

- Headbands—Get the simplest variety you can find, ideally without teeth. Narrower is better than wide versions. If you get black, you don't have to worry about boys shunning colors and many pollinating insects' heads are black! They are available in bulk on the Internet or in inexpensive 6-packs from dollar stores.
- Chenille Pipe Cleaners—Craft stores carry them in packs of 100 or 300. We use black for all but fly antennae. For fly

antennae, we use brownish-orange color.

Antennae Instructions

You can make them as needed or show kids how to make their own. Hold up headband, and place end of pipe cleaner on top just to the side of the center, and wrap 2- 3 times tightly around headband. Antennae will flop over and look sad if not wrapped tightly. Repeat for 2nd antennae.

- Bees—bend antennae halfway down.
- Butterflies—make small node in end by folding ends a couple of times.
- Beetles—leave antennae alone except you may gently curve them outwards.
- Flies—cut brownish orange pipe cleaner (black is OK, too) in half, then fold half pipe cleaner in half to find its middle. Match pipe cleaner middle to headband middle, and wrap pipe cleaner's center on headband, leaving the ends standing up. Then bend them down to make nubby fly antennae.

It's helpful to place sample sets of antennae on the antennae poster (bee antennae on bee section, and so on).

Make Inexpensive Pollinator Wings

Supplies:

- Light colored (white, off-white, soft gray...) tulle fabric (like ballerina tutus) of medium stiffness, available in fabric stores
- Chenille pipe cleaners (available in bulk from craft stores)
- Large safety pins (available in bulk from craft stores)

Wing Instructions—Have a wing party with volunteers before event!

- Cut tulle in approximately 12" X 24" pieces. (If you want to make them a little nicer, fold them in half, and round one outside corner.)
- Grab the tulle piece in the middle and wrap it with one pipe cleaner. (We like white pipe cleaners, but black will work fine.) You can practice and get really creative with the wrapping, but tuck the ends inside so they won't hurt the child's back.
- Insert open safety pin, head first, through middle of pipe cleaner wrapping and close safety pin until ready for pinning to child's shirt back.
- Pin onto child's shirt back close to neck.