

RESONATING BODIES

Trading Card Series 1



Bombus-impatiens

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Antennae

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Compound Eyes

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Ocelli

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COPY-CAT SERIES 3 OF 3

Some bees look alike, but are less closely related than you might guess. Similarities in appearance can occur when organisms live in the same type of ecosystem or use the same resources or due to mimicry. We can determine relatedness by using DNA and mapping species onto a phylogenetic tree.

Bombus with similar colour patterns are more easily recognized by predators. This adaptation gives them an edge: a bird may eat a bumble bee once but not twice!

Compare with:
7. *Bombus affinis*
8. *Bombus griseocollis*

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Resonating Bodies Trading Cards Series 1 #9

More info: <http://resonatingbodies.wordpress.com>

Bombus-impatiens

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Trading Card Series 1

SUPER POWER SERIES 1 OF 9

Although bees can't leap tall buildings in a single bound, they have powers that make them unique. Bees have evolved specialized ways to find and collect food, to sense their environment and to help pollinate flowers, all of which are pretty super!

The antennae have chemoreceptors that detect the identity of scents. Not only do bees need to smell out flowers, they can find their nests by chemical signatures and can even detect whether a flower has been recently visited by the scent marks that bees leave behind!

Pictured: This Osmia has very long antennae. Resonating Bodies Trading Cards Series 1 #10

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Antennae

RESONATING BODIES

Trading Card Series 1

SUPER POWER SERIES 2 OF 9

Although bees can't leap tall buildings in a single bound, they have powers that make them unique. Bees have evolved specialized ways to find and collect food, to sense their environment and to help pollinate flowers, all of which are pretty super!

Made of many independent photoreceptors called ommatidia, a bee's compound eyes have poor resolution, but easily detect movement and recognize different shapes and patterns. Bees have difficulty seeing the colour red, but generally have good colour vision and can see the ultraviolet markings that flowers use to direct pollinators to nectar.

Pictured: Megachile inermis (Leafcutter Bee). Resonating Bodies Trading Cards Series 1 #11

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Compound Eyes

RESONATING BODIES

Trading Card Series 1

SUPER POWER SERIES 3 OF 9

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Bees have three ocelli, or "simple" eyes, in between their compound eyes. Ocelli are simple structures and can only sense light and dark. Their function is not clear, but they measure light intensity and this helps them know the season.

Pictured: A look at the ocelli of the Bombus vagans. Resonating Bodies Trading Cards Series 1 #12

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Ocelli