



Meadows Play – Key Stage 1

A short class performance that teaches children about the meadows and the importance of traditional management

Parts required: Introducers x 3
Narrators x 5
Lazy Bee x 1
Belinda Bee x 1
Wasp x 1
Queen Bee x 1
Chief Ladybird x 1
Sign carrier x 1
Sheep - a small group of children
Helpers - a small group of children

Props: Bee costume x 3
Crown for Queen bee
Scroll with announcement
Sack labelled with fertiliser
Wasp costume
Ladybird costume
Stop clock
'Meadows' e.g. green cloth x 2
Signs - 'Belinda Bee's meadow', 'Lazy Bee's meadow' and 'Some time later'.
Flowers to spread on meadow
Wings for helpers
Sheep masks
Power point presentation

The accompanying power point presentation is available, on CD, from the High Weald AONB Unit (01580 879500).



Meadows Play - Script

😊 Indicates changing the accompanying power point slide - contact High Weald AONB Unit if you'd like a copy of the ppt presentation.

😊 **Introducer A:** Welcome to our assembly. We have been learning about meadows in the High Weald. 😊

Introducer B: The High Weald is a special area. It is an AONB, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Introducer C: It is a very beautiful and special area of countryside.

Introducer A: We are a High Weald Hero school so we've been doing lots of heroic things to find out about and be proud of the High Weald.

Introducer B: 😊 A meadow is just like a field and we are lucky enough to have lots of meadows in the High Weald. If looked after properly, it is home to lots of lovely flowers and grasses - great for bees, butterflies and insects.

Introducer C: If you're sitting comfortably, we will begin our special play about meadows.

Narrator 1: Once upon a time the Queen Bee made an announcement.
(*Queen bee enters and holds up competition scroll*) 😊

Narrator 2: She held a competition to see who could get the most pollen from their field in a given time.

Queen Bee: More pollen means more honey and more honey means a happy Queen (*exit Queen*)

Narrator 3: All the bees got to work...apart from one lazy bee.

(*enter Lazy & Belinda Bee*)



Education Resource

Lazy Bee: Belinda have you heard what the queen is asking us to do? I really don't want to have to collect all that pollen, but entry is compulsory!

Belinda Bee: Oh don't be so lazy! You know what will happen if you don't make the effort - extra hive duty and a right royal telling off - do you want that?

Lazy: First prize looks pretty good, two weeks in Ibeeza, basking in the sun, I love beaches, no flowers so no work...

Belinda: Well there's only one thing for it then, you've got to enter the competition and then you've got to win it. Now I'm off to get started!
(exits)

Narrator 4: Lazy bee certainly did not want to be last. He had to do some thinking.

Narrator 5: He wondered how he could grow some more flowers, so he would get more pollen and win the competition. *(Lazy scratches head and paces up and down)*

Narrator 1: Along came a wasp who tried to solve Lazy's problems.

☺ **Enter Wasp (carrying sack)** **Wasp:** Come and get your fertiliser! Hello there Lazy Bee, do you want to grow a bigger and better crop this year - the easy way?

Lazy: Well yes I do! How does it work?

Wasp: All you need to do is buy some fertiliser, sprinkle it on to your field and BOOM! A bumper crop!

Narrator 2: So Lazy bee bought some fertiliser from the wasp. He was very pleased that he had come up with a way of getting more pollen.

Enter Belinda **Belinda:** What's that?

Lazy: What's what? *(Tries to hide sack behind him)*



Belinda: That sack...what are you up to?

Lazy: Well..I found a way to get loads of flowers really quickly! I got some fertiliser and wasp says it will cause me to get a huge crop. That's sure to mean lots of flowers, so I can get their pollen and win the competition.

Belinda: But that's cheating! Plus you're asking for trouble if you don't stick to the 😊 old traditional ways of looking after a meadow.

Narrator 3: Belinda explained that the meadows and fields have produced wild flowers and lots of different types of grasses for generations without the use of chemicals.

Lazy: You're just jealous because you know I will win.

Belinda: No I'm not; I'm worried about what those chemicals will do to the meadow. I have loads of flowers in my meadow and I've never used fertiliser (*exits*)

Lazy: I have to admit her meadow does produce lots of flowers, *but* if I do the same as her *and* use the fertiliser I should win easily.

Narrator 4: Lazy bee thought carefully about what to do next. He knew that the hay 😊 was cut at the end of summer and now it was Autumn 😊. He could see that Belinda's had some 😊 sheep grazing on her meadow so he decided he'd better find some too.

Lazy: Come on sheep (*enter sheep*), yes you'll do and you. They seem to be grazing it pretty short in Belinda's field, not sure why but you'd better do the same (*sheep crawl around grazing the field*)

Narrator 5: Lazy bee decided to stop there and settle down for his Winter's rest (*goes to sleep*) 😊

Narrator 1: After a long sleep he woke up and remembered the competition.

Lazy: (*stretches, yawns*) The competition! (*Leaps up*) time to spread the fertiliser - I hope that wasp's got it right.



Narrator 2: He sprinkled it over the meadow and crossed his wings that it would work *Lazy Exits*

☺ *Helpers Rolls out two meadows with signs - 'Belinda Bee's Meadow' & 'Lazy Bee's Meadow'.*

Lazy (enters): ☺ Gosh that worked quickly -look at all that smart green grass.

Narrator 3: ☺ Lazy thought that his meadow made Belinda's meadow look quite scruffy. He was very pleased with his green grass and couldn't wait for the flowers to grow (*Lazy exits*)

Narrator 4: ☺ Soon the flowers began to grow (*children sprinkle flowers on to meadows, lots on Belinda's!*)

Narrator 5: When it was time to collect the pollen, Lazy and Belinda found some helpers (*Lazy & Belinda enter with helpers - with wings!*)

Lazy: Oh no, I can't believe it, what's happened? Where are all my flowers? There must have been something wrong with that fertiliser. (*Stomps off*)

Belinda: Oh dear, no flowers for Lazy bee - I guess you'd all better help me collect the pollen from my meadow - we've got a LOT of work to do! (*Helpers start to collect pollen from the flowers*)

Narrator 1: Lazy complained to the wasp and said that there were no flowers.

Narrator 2: But the wasp told Lazy that the fertiliser had done exactly what it said it would.

Narrator 3: The fertiliser promised to grow a bigger and better crop - a bigger and better crop of Rye grass - the shiny green stuff. ☺

Lazy: Rye grass is great apparently for animal hay but no good for bees!



Narrator 4: Meadow flowers don't like fertiliser. 😊

Narrator 5: That's right. The grass likes it so much it grows so fast and strong that it doesn't leave much room for the flowers.

Narrator 1: That's why Belinda gets her sheep to graze the meadow so short, to give the flowers a chance.

Narrator 2: So Lazy Bee undid all the good work the sheep did by adding that fertiliser.

Narrator 3: Soon it was time for the competition to be judged (*enter ladybird who starts examining meadows, shakes Belinda's hand, all exit*)

Child enters with a sign 'some time later'

Lazy (enters): I'm so tired! I came last and have had so much extra hive duty to do!

Queen Bee (enters): Well now Lazy bee - I think you deserve a right royal telling off for what you did. I'm not at all happy. (*Lazy looks sad*) you should be ashamed of yourself! (*both exit*)

Narrator 4: Lazy bee had to go back to school to learn how to look after his meadow properly. He learned that although fertiliser was good for producing lots of grass for hay it wasn't good for flowers.

Narrator 5: Less flowers mean that there is less pollen and that less bees and insects that can live in and enjoy the meadow.

Introducer A: We hope you have enjoyed our play about meadows and have learnt something about how special they are.