



polyglot

theatre is child's play ~~~

After Bees

Explorations at home

A Polyglot Theatre and Convent Kids resource

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Convent Kids.

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Polyglot Theatre is a world-renowned contemporary theatre company based in Melbourne making exceptional arts experiences for children and families.

Our unique brand of theatre encompasses a wide variety of forms and is shared with audiences everywhere, from the world's most prestigious theatres to the football grounds of regional Australia.

Polyglot's artistic and philosophical approach of child-centred practice has earned us a strong reputation at home and abroad as a leader in the Theatre for Young Audiences sector, celebrated for creating distinctive, participatory works that are playful and conceptually rigorous. Access is central to our work at Polyglot, driven by the right of all children to experience growth and resilience through creative play.

Convent Kids.

Convent Kids is an exciting program developed by Abbotsford Convent for children and families to explore and create art together. Developed in collaboration with leading artists, Convent Kids offers a range of fun hands-on activities that will inspire children and their families to experiment, learn and make art together.

Convent Kids places children at the centre of arts and cultural activity to foster lifelong engagement with the arts and their community, and improve children's educational outcomes. The Convent Kids program is underpinned by this philosophy, and we create environments where children and families feel welcome to connect with their community and participate in play-based learning together.

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Thank you for coming to *Bees*, presented by Polyglot Theatre and Abbotsford Convent for Convent Kids.



Polyglot Theatre's Play Spaces are deeply involving, and empower children to lead. At the heart of all our work is unbridled curiosity and the opportunity for imaginative adventure. We use familiar materials and elegant frameworks to welcome families into an immersive world of imagination.

Research and Polyglot's years of experience tell us that creative play is integral to developing confidence and self-determination, and instills resources in children that they can take into many areas of their lives.

In Polyglot's performances we invite children to discover, explore and become embodied in these Play Spaces; and for the adults joining them to delight in following their child's curiosity and rediscovering their own playfulness. Watching is not the same as the sensory and physical experience of being involved, and the open structure of the Play Spaces allow families the flexibility to make choices in how they participate in their own way and at their own pace.

Bees is an exciting experience that joyfully honours the mysterious life of these essential insects. Our three human-sized Bees busy themselves in the life and work of being a bee, maintaining a hive, and creating community with you. They use non-verbal communication, ritual and dance, and are very 'buzzy' but also like their down time. When you begin to join them and transform into a Bee, you become part of their secret world. The Bees are silly and serious, fascinating and fun; and leave you flying high and looking at the world in a different way.

We hope it gave your family a buzz and you enjoyed becoming part of the Bee world.

After visiting *Bees* and now knowing what it is like to be a bee, you can continue to play at home. There are some ideas to help on the following page.

If you'd like to share anything that you create with us, you can send photos, drawings or words to info@polyglot.org.au



Photographer: Theresa Harrison

Bees was developed through Polyglot's Generator program, with support from the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, and the Sidney Myer Fund. This season is supported by the City of Yarra.



Explorations at home



Make

- Make your own costume using found or recycled objects, fabric, paper and tape.
- Make lots of little bees and create a 'Swarm of Bees' hanging mobile.
- Make tiny Bees and hang them on branches or place them in flowers and plants.
- Make a Bee puppet with an old sock or paper bag that you can put over your hand and decorate. Make your Bee fly, dance, collect pollen, and sting!
- Draw or paint pictures of bees and create an art gallery and serve honey snacks to your visitors.

Cook

Make yummy honey treats: biscuits, cakes, honey-infused banana bread or smoothies.

Build

Bees build and live in honeycomb hives made up of a series of small spaces next to and on top of each other. Build your own hive using objects from around your home.

Move

Bees communicate by doing a 'Waggle Dance' and flying in a figure-eight shape. Put on your favourite music and dance your best bee moves following a figure-eight path.

Look and share

Collect flowers from your neighbourhood and make a little posy or bouquet. Do you know their names? Notice the different colours and shapes. Can you smell any fragrance? Can you see the pollen in the centre of the flower?

Games

Bees Chasey - the chaser is the 'Stinger'. Whoever gets stung falls to the ground and dies dramatically with a loud buzz and is out of the game. Or choose a Queen Bee and form a Swarm of Bees with friends and play Follow the Leader.



Photographer: Theresa Harrison

Abbotsford Convent.