Nectar Collector

Materials:
6-8 large clear jars
6-8 plastic turkey basters
2 colors of food coloring
Water
Timer
Extra water and food coloring

Set-Up:
1. Place 2 empty jars at the “home base” or “hive.” Designate which color will go in each jar. Example – if you are using red and blue food coloring, label one jar as “red nectar” and the other as “blue nectar.”
2. At other locations away from the “hive,” set 2 jars at each location selected. These represent the flowers with the nectar. Place water in the jars and add food coloring to one and a different color to the other. Do this at each “flower” location. Example – you may set 2 jars, one with red water and one with blue water 10 yards away, and 2 more jars (again red and blue) 20 yards away. Place as many “flowers” as you want wherever you want. Make sure there are equal numbers of colored jars.

Playing the Game:
1. Have 3-4 children on “Hive A Team” and another 3-4 children on “Hive B Team.” Allow them to wear bug antennae or bee costumes if you wish. Tell each hive which color nectar they will be collecting.
2. Give each team player a turkey baster. Explain how bees use their long, tube-like tongue to suck up nectar and bring it back to the hive. They will be simulating this with the turkey baster.
3. Send teams out to collect as much nectar as they can in a given time. They run out, use the turkey baster to suck up the assigned colored nectar, run back with it in the turkey baster and squirt it into their hive’s empty jar. They can continue this until time is called. The hive with the most nectar wins.
4. Refill “flowers” with nectar before the next group goes collecting. Repeat until everyone has had a turn.