

# Healthy Habitat

Bees thrive and food grows!

A **habitat** is a home to living things like plants and animals. It provides what they need, like shelter, water and food. A bumble bee, for example, needs the right kind of place for a nest and the right kinds of plants close by to provide nectar and pollen. In **ecosystems**, a habitat's living things connect with the larger **environment's** non-living things, like water and soil. In some ecosystems, bees are a "keystone" species. This means that without them, the ecosystem would break down and foods that grow there would not survive.



Kinnikinnick




Chokecherry



Wild strawberry



 Write a **Ballad** about cooking with foods bees make!

**What is it?** A **ballad** is a poem or song with four lines that rhyme. Words that rhyme end with the same sound. For example, **plot** and **lot** rhyme. In many ballads, the first and third lines rhyme with each other, and the second and fourth lines share a different rhyme. Here's an example:

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Making Pollination Pizza

My class makes pizza from our garden plot with peppers bees helped grow—tomatoes, too! We spread the crust with sauce, then add a lot of veggies on the top. It's fun to do!

Try writing a ballad about food that bees help make. First give your poem a title. If you like, draw a picture for your poem in the blank space below. Find someone to share your ballad with!



## A Tradition of Controlled Burning

**Cultural burning** is a method used to restore the health of an area of land by burning it. Cultural burning helps to prevent wildfires and promotes the growth of strong native plant and animal habitats. For thousands of years Indigenous Peoples have practiced cultural burning. Indigenous Peoples draw on their vast understanding of the land, local plants and animals in deciding whether, where and how to use cultural burning. For many years, the practice was illegal. But over time, forestry science caught up with Indigenous knowledge. Now, with the support of Indigenous knowledge-holders, government forestry services have begun using cultural burning to restore the health of land areas.

