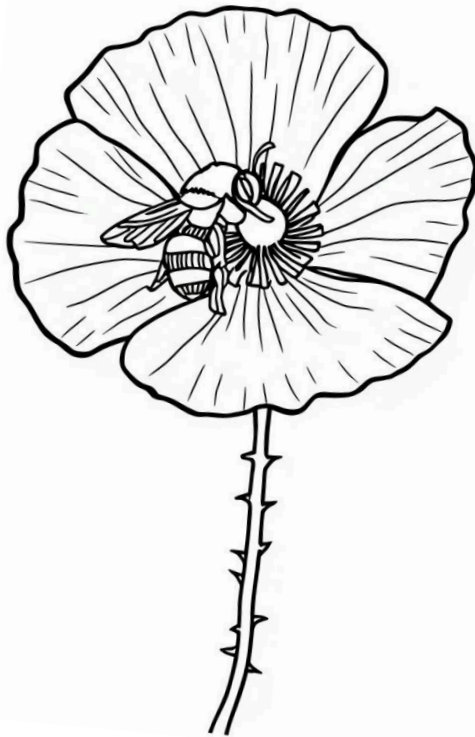


POPPY & THE BUZZ BRIGADE



Deep in the corner of the garden, a bright red poppy lifted her sleepy head. “Good morning, world!” she sang.

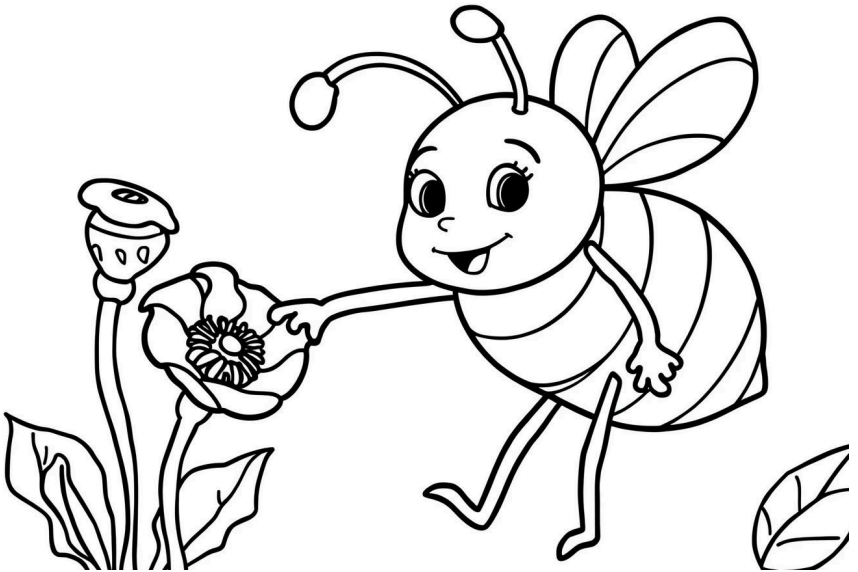
Something tiny buzzed by her petals.



**“Bzzzz! Pardon me!” said
the little visitor.**

**“Oh! Who are you?” asked
Poppy.**

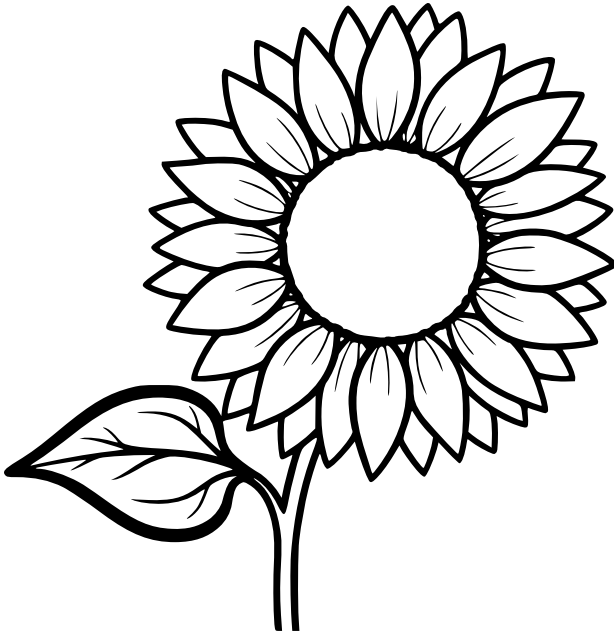
**“I’m Benny the Bumblebee.
Official member of the Buzz
Brigade - pollinator patrol!”**



“Pollinator?” Poppy tilted her stem.

“That’s right,” Benny said, dusting golden powder from his legs.

“We help make flowers.”

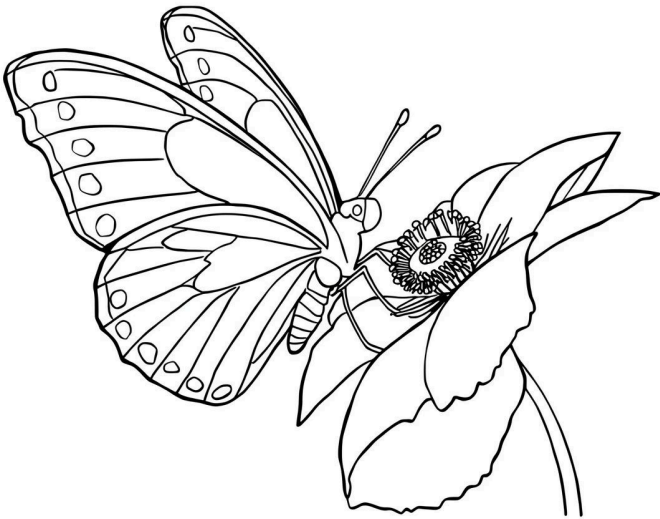


“ No flowers and then there are no blueberries for Grandma Maple’s muffins, either.”



**Just then, a butterfly landed
nearby, wings glittering like
stained glass.**

**“I’m Bella the Butterfly,” she said.
“I flutter from flower to flower,
sipping nectar and spreading
pollen.”**



A flash of color darted past.

**“Don’t forget me!” called Henry
the Hummingbird. “I’m the
speedy one. I zip between
flowers faster than the eye can
blink!”**

“Pollination is a team sport!”



Poppy smiled. “So, you’re all helpers of the garden!”

“Exactly,” said Benny. “We feed the flowers, and they feed us back. Nectar for us, seeds and fruit for everyone else. That’s how nature keeps turning.”



**But not everyone was buzzing
with joy.**

**A beetle grumbled from the
mulch.**

**“Humph! The big farm fields are
sprayed too much. His bee
friends got sick.”**

**Benny’s wings drooped. “That’s
true. Pesticides, lawns with no
flowers, too much concrete—it’s
hard to find safe places to work.”**



**Poppy thought hard. “What can we do to help?”
“Plant more flowers!” Bella cheered.**

“And don’t mow too low,” Henry added. “Leave a few weeds for the bees.”

“And no yucky sprays,” said Benny, wrinkling his nose. “We like our snacks chemical-free.”



**That afternoon, Grandma
Maple came out with her
hat and gloves.**

**She planted marigolds,
clover, lavender, and
milkweed.**

**Soon, the whole garden
hummed and fluttered with
life again.**



From the tallest sunflower to the tiniest daisy, everyone cheered, “Long live the pollinators!”

And Poppy smiled at the golden sky. Now she knew- it takes many small wings to make a garden bloom.



Pollinators like bees, butterflies, beetles, hummingbirds, and bats help plants make fruit and seeds.

You can help by planting pollinator-friendly flowers, avoiding pesticides, and giving them safe places to rest.

Draw your garden.

**“The earth is the Lord’s,
and everything in it, the
world, and all who live in
it.”**

– Psalm 24:1

