

ARIZONA AGRICULTURE

BEE'S AMAZING ADVENTURE



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in cooperation with

The University of Arizona College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Cooperative Extension
and Maricopa County Farm Bureau



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CURRICULUM GUIDE

FOR TEACHERS, LIBRARIANS, AND PARENTS

READ ALOUD AND LOVE IT!

Prep Time

- Read and familiarize yourself with the book ahead of time.
- Preview the glossary.
- Prepare visual aids and supplementary activities.



Meet the Reader — Meet Pee Wee Bee

- Introduce yourself. Explain why you are the perfect person to share this book with your audience.
- Introduce the book, its title, the author, and the illustrator. Use and define these words to help children develop a better understanding of literary terminology.
- Before you start to read, ask the audience to predict what this book's topic might be.



Read-Aloud Tips

- Avoid the most common presentation mistake—reading too fast. Slow down and allow time for listeners to comprehend the information being shared.
- Pay close attention to punctuation and demonstrate how it impacts the story. Pause at commas. Stop at periods. Make your voice rise at question marks. Emphasize exclamation points.
- Maintain eye contact with the children as you share the story. Make your eyes expressive.



Ham It Up

- Vary your voice. Change your volume, tempo, and inflection (i.e. whisper, laugh, emphasize key words, convey enthusiasm and excitement).
- Use dynamic body language to engage the audience—wave, point, flap your arms, nod your head, etc.
- Use a special, animated voice whenever Pee Wee Bee talks.
- Be dramatic. Don't be afraid to be a little bit silly. Children love it!



Get Engaged

- “Echo read” by inviting listeners to repeat Bee’s comments, key terms, or fun facts.
- Have the kids say **“BZZZZZ”** whenever you turn a page.
- Let children take turns holding the book/turning the pages.
- Bring products (cotton bolls, eggs, pecans, lettuce, etc.) or photos to share as visual aids. Select “helpers” to stand and display the products/photos when they are introduced in the book.
- Ask open-ended questions throughout the book:
 - “Why does Pee Wee Bee think she is so important to this crop?”
 - “How does technology help the agricultural industry?”
 - “What do you think would happen if there were no farmers?”



Comprehension Questions

Based on the lesson time allocated and the age of your audience, select appropriate extension topics from the list below. You can present them while you are reading and/or when you finish the book.

- Compare beef cattle and dairy cows.
- Cotton farmers work hard. What are some of the chores you think they must do every day?
- Name three specialty crops.
- Is it correct to say “cotton boll” or “cotton ball”?
- Describe some of the technologies that ranchers and farmers use today.
- How many jobs can you name that are tied to Arizona agriculture?
- Name as many dairy products as you can.
- Which Arizona agriculture job would you like to do? Why?
- How can you help save Arizona’s water?
- If you had to write a report about Arizona agriculture, which topics would you choose?

Online Resources

Would you like a supplemental activity that ties to Pee Wee Bee? A lesson plan? A song? A recipe? Check out these helpful links:

- Water-related resources: <http://arizonawet.arizona.edu>
- Central Arizona Project (water systems): <http://www.cap-az.com>
- University of Arizona Cooperative Extension: <http://cals.arizona.edu/agliteracy>
- Arizona Farm Bureau: <http://www.azfb.org>
- “Ag in the Classroom” lesson plans and resources for grades Pre-K to 12: <http://www.agclassroom.org>

