What's the Buzz About?

The History of Bees and Beeswax



The Beginnings

Humans have been beekeeping for over 9000 years

Early interactions with bees are seen in cave paintings and traces of honey found on ancient pottery

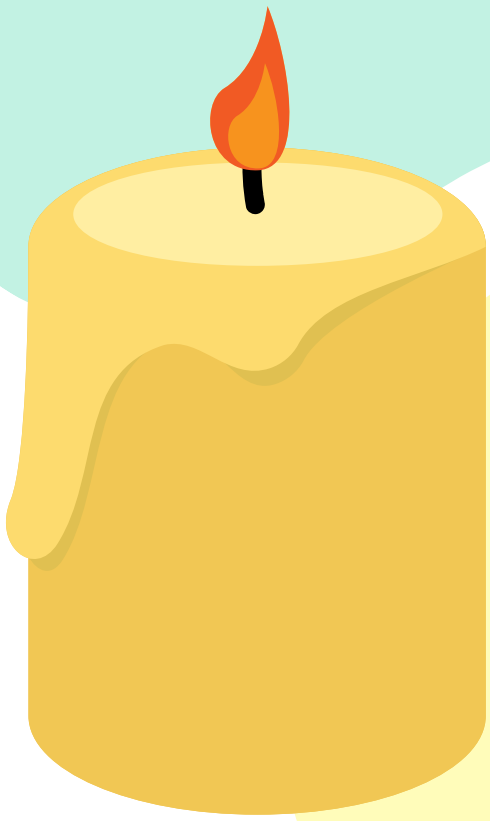
Beekeeping was practiced in ancient Greece and Rome, as well as in medieval Northern Europe, when beekeepers used log hives

Colonial Age

During the colonization of the Americas, European Honeybees were among the first animals to ship with the early settlers.

Bees would produce honey and beeswax, which were important sources of income. They could also make products like candles, lipstick, shoe polish, and mead.





Beeswax Candles

Beeswax candles have been used for thousands of years, including in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome

By the 18th century, the dipping method, which is still used today, was developed.

In the 19th century, with the invention of the electric lightbulb, the popularity of beeswax candles began to decline.

With the recent resurgence of interest in natural and sustainable products, beeswax candles have regained popularity.

Bee-come Informed

The Importance of Bees

Bees help to Pollinate food crops, helping to produce 1/3 of our food supply

They also pollinate wild trees and flowers, which helps animals



Bees provide 1/2 of the world's fibers, oils, and other raw materials

Other than honey, bee products are used to make medicine, candles cosmetics, soap, and more

Bee populations are declining globally due to habitat loss, intensive farming practices, climate change, parasites and diseases, invasive species, and the excessive use of agrochemicals

This threatens a variety of plants that are critical to human well-being and livelihood

Ways to help the bees:

Stop using pesticides and other harmful chemicals
Plant bee-friendly flowers and flowering trees
Source local honey
Make a bee shelter or bath
Support projects to protect our wildlife



