

# FAIRBANKS MUSEUM & planetarium

## At Home Science Class

*Native Bee Homes*

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*The following websites and instructions represent additional resources for continued study of the topics covered in our "At Home Science" online class. All materials on each website are the property of each individual website owner and have been reviewed by a Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium educator.*

Using materials you can find in and around your house, build native bee homes to support your local, friendly bee. To do this you will need materials listed below. Then look for a sunny spot near a building or a place that will not be windy to place your bee home. Attracting native bees is safe as they really do not have anything to protect (like a hive full of other bees and honey) and will not sting you unless you step on one barefoot. So pick a safe space for you and your bee home where you can check on it throughout the summer and see if any bees are making use of your project.

### Activity Needs:

- Scissors
- Tape
- Plastic cup or aluminum can
- Paper: can be brown, white, or newspaper. Basically anything that you can make into strips and roll up
- Natural materials like daylily stalks from last year or any plant with a hollow stem

Cut all the paper the same length and then cut strips of it. Roll each strip up and tape it to itself near each end. You want the ends of the rolled paper to be open. Keep adding rolled paper tubes to a container until the container is full. Then set the container on its side with the tubes sticking out in a sunny spot. Keep a look out to see who moves in.

### Resources:

- Wild Pollinators and Vermont's Food System: Keeper of Native Bees  
<https://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/VVBGAMeeting2014/RickettsPollinators.pdf>
- Keeper of Native Bees: <https://www.thefarmbetween.com/keeper-native-bees/>