

TAKE ACTION GUIDE:

BEEKEEPER



ABOUT THE FILM

In his film, BEEKEEPER, Keith Griffith III explains the essential role of pollinators in the environment and in food production. He is on a mission to spread the word about the ecologically critical honeybee. Rising temperatures, habitat loss and pesticides have disrupted bees' ecosystems worldwide, threatening their very existence. Keith explains what bees have taught him: cooperation, community and emotional well-being, lessons he shares in workshops and talks in his hometown, Louisville, Kentucky. Keith began keeping bees about four years ago, when both of his parents were incarcerated. Beekeeping helped him manage the stress of not having his parents at home.

"I wanted to make this film because my family and I have a story to tell. As a beekeeper, I've learned that honeybees consistently act in social ways that benefit the entire hive—even at the sacrifice of individual gain. They are inherently altruistic, and they are great examples for understanding the significance of symbiotic relationships." —Keith Griffith III

REFLECT AND SHARE

1. What surprised you about the film? Why?
2. What did you learn from watching this film?
3. How is the filmmaker's life similar to yours? How is it different?
4. Did watching this film make you want to change your behavior or the behavior of others? How?
5. What can we learn from witnessing other people's stories?
6. What is your story? What would you like others to learn from you?

LEARN MORE

When Keith lost both of his parents to the criminal justice system, he found healing, direction and purpose in working with honeybees. It's your turn to learn more about the importance of bees, and about how our criminal justice system affects families around the nation. Read below for resources where you can learn more.

Beeing2gether

Beeing2gether is Keith's nonprofit organization that is featured in the film. He combines knowledge about bees with mental health, and shares his own progress and joy.

<https://www.beeing2gether.com>

Save Bees

Save Bees is a site that shares stories and science about bees.

<https://savebees.org/learn>

The Pollinator Partnership

The Pollinator Partnership's mission is to promote the health of pollinators, critical to food and ecosystems, through conservation, education and research.

<https://pollinator.org>

Defenders of Wildlife

Defenders of Wildlife is a U.S.-based organization that protects and works to restore imperiled species and their habitats in North America.

<https://defenders.org>

National Institute of Justice

The National Institute of Justice is a research agency in the U.S. Department of Justice. This article from its journal addresses how incarceration impacts children.

<https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/hidden-consequences-impact-incarceration-dependent-children>

TAKE ACTION

Keith found a way to turn his personal loss into motivation. Like a honeybee, Keith found purpose in working collaboratively toward a shared better world. You can get involved as well! Visit the sites below to take action.

The Bee Conservancy

The Bee Conservancy suggests 10 ways to get involved and save the bees.

<https://thebeeconservancy.org/10-ways-to-save-the-bees>

Paso Pacifico

Paso Pacifico works to restore and protect the Pacific Slope ecosystems of Mesoamerica—and that includes working to preserve native stingless bees in Central and North America.

<https://pasopacifico.org/get-involved/take-action>

Children of Incarcerated Parents

The Children of Incarcerated Parents Tip Sheet was written by youths with incarcerated parents and offers great ways to support children who are impacted by the criminal justice system.

<https://youth.gov/youth-topics/children-of-incarcerated-parents/listening-sessions/tip-sheet-for-providers-coip>

Project Avary

Project Avary is a U.S. organization that supports children with incarcerated parents.

<https://www.projectavary.org>

ABOUT BYKIDS

BYkids produces real-world films for kids, by kids. Talented young storytellers from around the world are paired with seasoned filmmakers to create powerful documentaries about their lives. In partnership with public television and education innovators, we share the films and their educational resources to help make global issues feel personal, relevant and actionable for millions of students. Our work serves as a catalyst for change, igniting important conversations and inspiring a new generation of social activists. To support our work, visit bykids.org/donate.

This guide was created and written by Big Picture Educational Consulting.