

3 The wild bees

Most of them are loners (solitary bees) and nest in the ground. But dried plant stalks, deadwood or empty snail shells are popular dwellings, e.g. for the snail house mason bee. Wild bees usually fly only 70-300 meters. The forage plants and the nesting possibilities should therefore be as close together as possible. One thing all wild bees have in common:

- They like it warm and dry
- And they feed on nectar and pollen - like the honeybee.
- Unlike honeybees, most wild bees live alone and do not form a "colony," except bumblebees
- Wild bees do not build honeycombs, so we cannot gain honey from them.

The pollen and nectar are eaten by the larva (i.e. the wild bee children). Most wild bees cannot sting! So they are pretty safe and gentle creatures.