Inside the Hive

The honey bees' home is made of the "comb" - the hexagonal cells honey bees construct out of beeswax. This is where the baby bees (called "brood") are raised, food is made and stored, and where the bees communicate with each other.

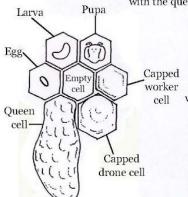
Can you identify the parts of the comb inside the hive and the three different kinds of bees that live there?



Queen
The mother of the
beehive, the queen
can lay up to 2,000
eggs per day! There
is only one queen
in a bee colony.

Drone
The drones are
the male bees in
the hive, and
account for about
10% of the
population. The
drone's job is mating
with the queen.

Worker
The worker bees
are all female, and
have many jobs
which change
depending on
the bee's age.



A honey bee's food comes from flowers: pollen for protein, and honey which is made in the cells from nectar and then capped with wax. Honey bees go through four stages of development in their cells: egg, larva, pupa, and adult.

Once the bee is a pupa, other bees cap the cell with wax until the bee has become an adult.

The worker bee's cell is the smallest, the drone's cell is slightly bigger, and the queen's cell is the largest.

