

Madurodam

Madurodam is the smallest town in Holland. When you walk down its streets, you can look down on the tops of the buildings. Madurodam and everything in it is doll-sized. The town was built for children, but grown-ups like it, too. This miniature town has everything that a life-sized city in Holland has. Tiny boats sail in the water. Toy trains run down the tracks. There are little windmills that really work. The miniature buildings are beautiful. Some buildings even have towers with tiny clocks. There are little stores, schools, forests, and factories. At night, the town of Madurodam looks very beautiful. After the sun goes down, 50,000 lights are turned on in the city. Then there is a tiny parade through the streets. It is led by a queen's Golden Coach. A band plays music.

The town of Madurodam was built by the Maduro family. They built it to honor their son, George, a Dutch soldier who was killed in World War II. All the money that visitors pay to see the town goes to projects and schools for the children of Holland. The town not only gives enjoyment to the children when they are young, but helps pay for school when they are older.



Main Idea

1. The main idea of this story is:
 - a. Madurodam is a tiny town built for children to enjoy.
 - b. Holland is the smallest country in the world.
 - c. At night there is a parade in the town of Madurodam.

Significant Details

2. The town of Madurodam was built by
 - a. the Maduro family.
 - b. a Dutch soldier.
 - c. the children of Holland.
3. Money from the visitors of Madurodam goes to
 - a. schools in Holland.
 - b. the Dutch soldiers.
 - c. Madurodam.

Context Clues

4. The *miniature* town has everything a real town has.
 - a. beautiful
 - b. building
 - c. tiny
5. *Grown-ups* enjoy Madurodam as much as their children do.
 - a. partners
 - b. visitors
 - c. adults

Drawing Conclusions

6. T F Madurodam would be a good place to live.
7. T F Children can go to school in Madurodam.
8. T F A ten-year-old boy would not fit inside a house in Madurodam.

The Wild One

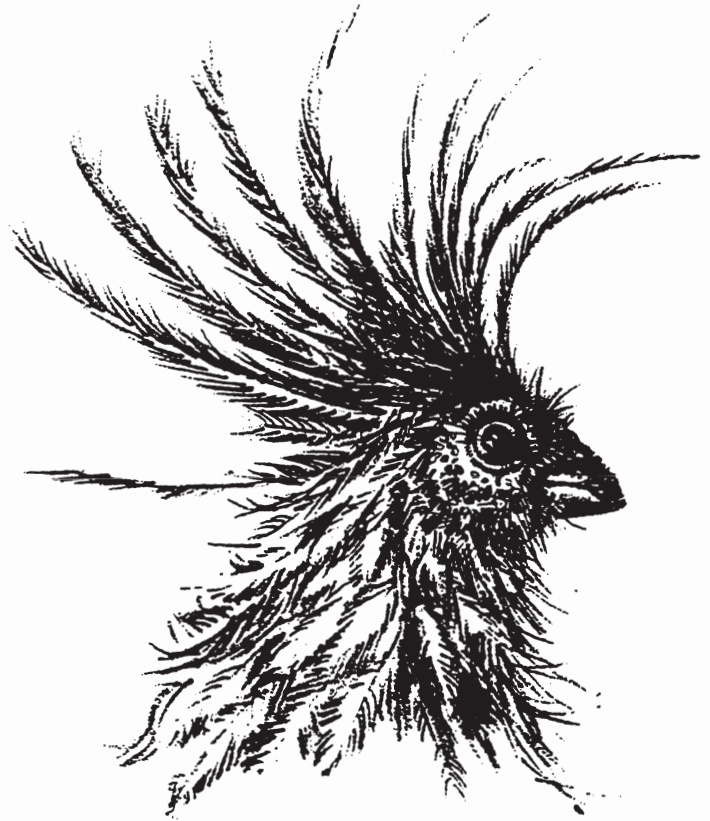
What has a bright blue face, hair that stands straight up, and long, black eyelashes? Is it a punk rock star? No, guess again. It is a strange jungle bird, the hoatzin.

The hoatzin lives near rivers in South America. It is not like any other bird! A baby hoatzin has claws on the ends of its wings. It can crawl up and down a tree trunk to get to its nest. Sometimes a baby bird may fall into the water. But it can dive and swim underwater just like a fish. It can then return safely to the riverbank. Then, using its claws, legs, and bill, the bird can climb back to its nest.

As the bird gets older, the claws disappear, and the wings grow. A large sack, or crop, also grows inside the bird's chest. Hoatzins eat leaves, flowers, and sometimes fruit. A hoatzin can store large amounts of this food in its crop.

Hoatzins live in small friendly groups of about ten birds. They build nests from twigs. All of the older birds

share in taking care of the young. Hoatzins may look and act strangely, but they are very good baby-sitters. Although they are in a class by themselves, scientists now think these strange birds may be distant cousins of the cuckoo.



Main Idea

1. The hoatzin
 - a. is different from other birds.
 - b. lives near the South Pole.
 - c. does not like trees.

Significant Details

2. This bird has _____ on its wings when it is young.
 - a. no feathers
 - b. claws
 - c. blue hair
3. The hoatzin likes to eat
 - a. tree branches.
 - b. leaves.
 - c. bugs.

4. Which one may be a cousin to the hoatzin?
 - a. cuckoo
 - b. punk rock star
 - c. fish

Context Clues

5. The claws *disappear*.
 - a. get bigger
 - b. get smaller
 - c. go away
6. A hoatzin can *store* food in its crop.
 - a. get rid of
 - b. keep
 - c. buy

Natural Art

“Busy as a bee” has a lot of meaning for sculptor Garnett Puett. Many sculptors carve a statue from wood or stone. Others shape clay into molds. The molds are then filled. The molds are broken away and a statue remains. But Puett has a new idea. He uses bees to help make statues.

They are not special bees. These bees are found in fields and gardens. First, Puett makes an outline of a person from wood and metal. Then, he coats the figure with sugar water. A queen bee is put into the middle of the shape. Then work is ready to begin.

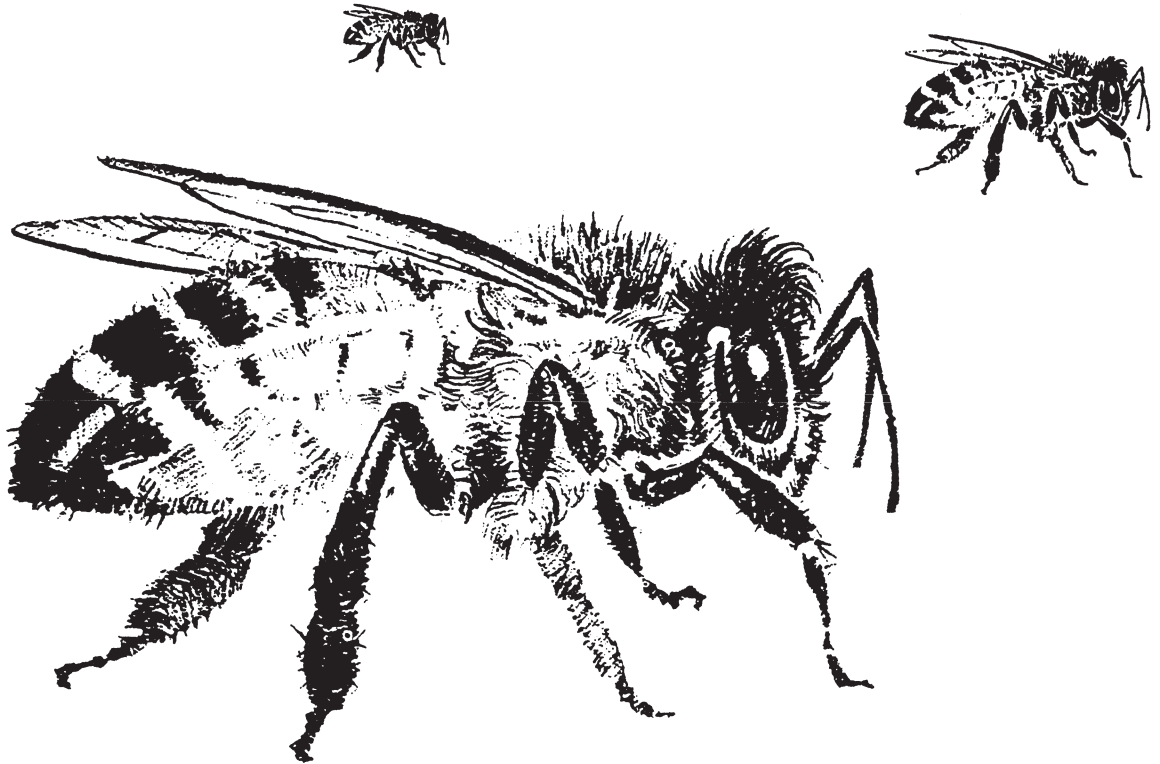
Bees start to add a honeycomb to the frame. Hour after hour the bees bring nectar to the sculpture. They

seem to naturally build things evenly. The bees add two inches of honeycomb to the right side of the head. Then they add two inches to the left. Soon the shape looks like a person. Often the bees’ work makes a figure like an Egyptian mummy.

Puett watches the work of the bees day by day. Usually, he lets them build in their own way. But sometimes he may not like the shape of the beeswax. Puett can melt off the unwanted part. He then lets the bees begin again.

In a London art show, one of the beeswax figures held a real hive at its side. In a Chicago show, the figure was in a glass box. Bees came in and out of a hole in the museum wall.

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Bees finished the statue as people watched. In a St. Louis outdoor sculpture park, the bees were right at home. They found nectar in the nearby flowers. There they worked on a figure of the sculptor's wife.

Puett truly likes bees. He has studied their ways. He admires their hard work. With these statues, Puett can combine two of his favorite things. And the art world is positively buzzing about this exciting new idea in sculpture!



Main Idea

1. Garnett Puett
 - a. makes statues.
 - b. plays the piano.
 - c. draws cartoons.
2. _____ help Puett finish his art work.
 - a. Museums
 - b. Flowers
 - c. Bees

Significant Details

3. Puett coats a figure with
 - a. flowers.
 - b. sugar water.
 - c. wood.
4. If Puett does not like the work, he
 - a. melts the wax.
 - b. gets very angry.
 - c. throws it against the wall.

5. The Chicago show was in a
 - a. garden.
 - b. museum.
 - c. hall.

Context Clues

6. *Nectar* used by bees is found in the middle of flowers.
 - a. a bud
 - b. a kind of glue
 - c. a sweet liquid
7. Puett *combines* two of his favorite things.
 - a. mixes
 - b. fights against
 - c. orders

Drawing Conclusions

8. Do you think other sculptors will use bees? Explain. _____

