



HIGH TECH HIGH

August 29, 2011

Dear students, parents, relatives, and guardians,

As you may know, we are embarking on a bee ecology project in Biology this semester. Recently, there has been a significant decline in the number of honey bees and many species of native bees. One of the factors that has caused bees to die is predators. Yet little is known about how predators capture bees, or how bees avoid predators. The students will have the unique opportunity to design experiments to test bees' reactions to predators. This important research will then be used by scientists studying bees and bee colony collapse.

We are very fortunate to be collaborating with Dr. Eben Goodale and the Nieh Bee Research Lab at UCSD for this project. Dr. Goodale and Dr. Nieh have graciously invited us to test our experiments out on the bees at the UCSD Greenhouse/Field Station Hives. Therefore, we will make two trips to the UCSD hives to conduct our experiments. One trip will be on September, 8th and the other will be on either October 6th or 11th. Before working at the bee hives, students must participate in a safety lecture and don bee personal protective equipment. No students will be allowed to work at the hives without being fully covered in a bee suit, protective shoes, and gloves.

In addition to their work at the hives, students will also work with some individual bees and bee predators in the lab and classroom. Primarily, they will be dissecting bees and raising bee predators. As at the hives, students will be expected to follow safety procedures .

Please let us know if your child has any allergies to bees or spiders. Also let us know if you would like to exclude your child from any of these activities. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please email Jesse at jwade@hightechhigh.org or call 858-232-5998.

Sincerely,

Jesse Wade Robinson

Jesse Wade
Biology Instructor
High Tech High

David Berggren
Engineering Instructor
High Tech High

- My child has an allergy to _____.
- I would like to **exclude** my child from the field trip to the hives

Student Name Date

Parent Signature Date

