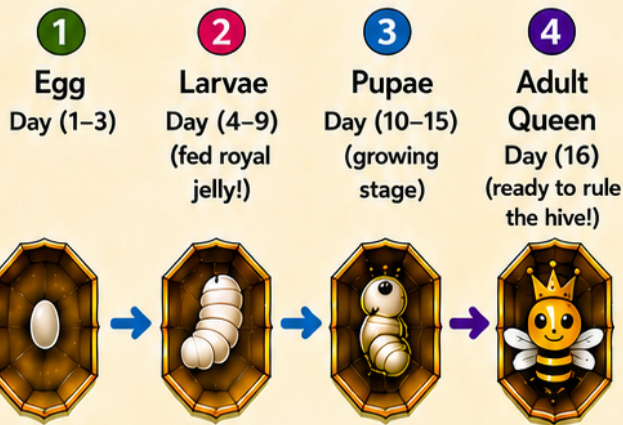




MEET THE QUEEN BEE



THE LIFE CYCLE



Total time from egg to adult Queen: **16 days!**

WHY IS THE QUEEN IMPORTANT?

- ♥ She lays up to 2,000 eggs per day!
- ♥ She can lay up to **1 MILLION** eggs in her lifetime!
- ♥ She can choose if each egg will be a male or female.
- ♥ She keeps the hive organized with special scents (pheromones).
- ♥ She helps the colony survive and grow.



MORE FUN FACTS ABOUT QUEEN BEES!

- ✿ The queen is the **ONLY** fertile female in the hive.
- ✿ She can live up to **5** years!
- ✿ The queen is bigger and longer than worker bees.
- ✿ She does **NOT** collect pollen or nectar. Worker bees do that!
- ✿ Worker bees feed and protect the queen. They are her royal attendants!

ONE QUEEN LOTS OF BEES!



- ✿ After mating, the queen stores millions of sperm in her body for the rest of her life!
- ✿ The queen can choose:
fertilized egg = **GIRL** (worker) •
unfertilized egg = **BOY** (drone)
- ✿ The queen will mate with **12-20** drones in mid-air.
- ✿ The Queen will go out on her mating flight **5-7** days after emerging from her cell.