

Telling the Bees – The Beespoon

The Beespoon is an interactive experience to engage people with contemporary environmental issues, highlighting concepts of reciprocity, work and pollination. Visitors to the exhibit are asked to help by making origami flowers, whereupon their 'work' is rewarded by the slow drip of honey into the Beespoon - a small copper spoon representing the amount of honey a single bee can produce during her lifetime. Over the course of a day, the Beespoon gradually fills with honey as the wall hanging correspondingly fills with flowers.

Space Requirements:

- 2 tables: one to hold the Beespoon plinth (which is 46cm x 46cm approx.); and the second table to provide a space to lay out paper to make flowers. Standard rectangular tables are sufficient.
- 3 chairs - not essential but useful when making flowers (for both visitors and volunteers running the Beespoon!).
- **Wall space (or pin boards etc):** The Beespoon installation requires a way to affix a 2.94m (width) x 1.40m (high) wall hanging to a vertical surface (e.g. wall or posterboard). Eyelets in the hessian allow easy attachment. The wall hanging can be folded over to make it smaller.

Power Requirements

The beespoon can be plugged into a mains supply or can be attached to a 12v battery (provided in the kit).

If it is to be used with a mains supply from a generator etc. it will need an extension lead (not provided).

If it is to be used with the battery there must be space under/behind the display table for the provided battery box (Approx. 16cm x 7cm).

Running the Beespoon

We have taken the Beespoon to several events around the UK. Based on this, we recommend that a **minimum** of 2 people are available to run the Beespoon at all times. This means that one person can be focused on the Beespoon itself, explaining what it is, and managing people pressing the button (i.e. only those people who have made a flower!), and stopping people (often children but not always) from picking up the beespoon and eating the honey! The other person can in the meantime be explaining and demonstrating how to make the flowers, pinning them on the wall and having a conversation about bees.

However, if you anticipate that your event is going to be busy then you may need up to 4 people running the installation (1 person at the Beespoon, 2 people making flowers, 1 person pinning flowers up).

Dimensions of Travelling Cases

The Beespoon comes in a Flight case with the dimensions 80cm x 60.5cm x 42.5cm. (See image below.) It has castors attached to the base to ease transport, which add to the height. The consumables come in a reinforced suitcase with the dimensions 55.5cm x 36.5cm x 21cm.

Please consider the space needed if you plan transport the Beespoon from the drop off location.

Full instructions will be provided.

The Beespoon



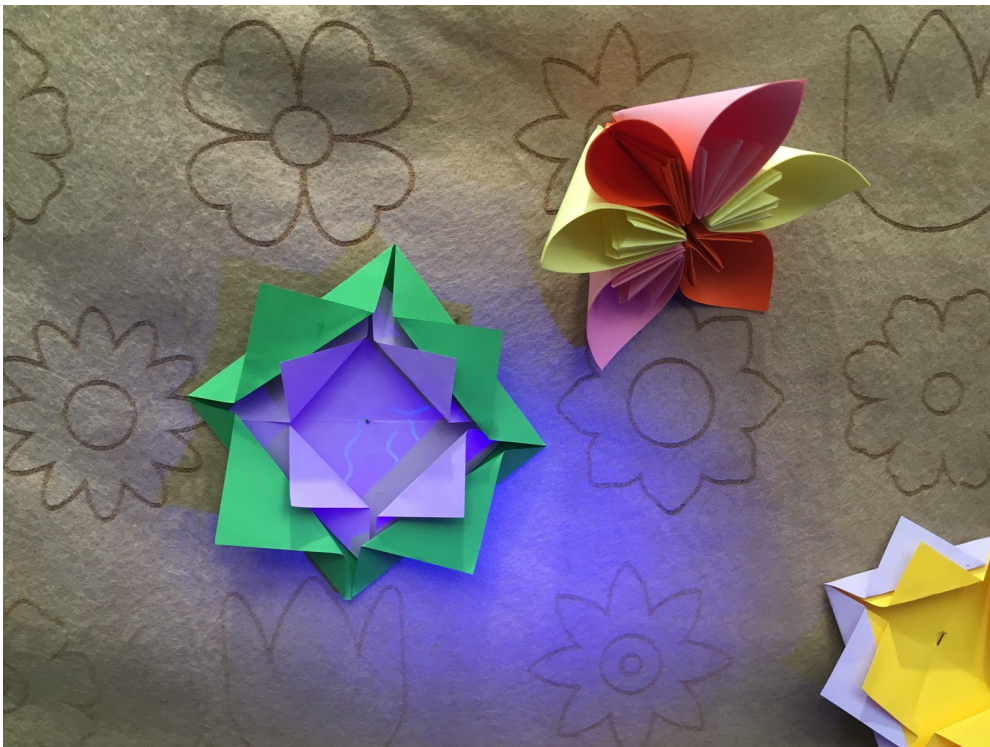
Photo: Lyndsay Perth



Making flowers and talking about bees.



(We have a new banner, but don't yet have good photos of it in action - this shows the way it works with our old banner.)





The beespoon is packed in a flightcase with a suitcase for consumables.