



# Activity Plan



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*When the Bees Fly Home*  
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**Synopsis :** Young Jonathan, the son of a beekeeper, isn't sturdy enough to help his dad with some of the farmwork, but when his mom stays up late one night to make beeswax candles, he puts his own skills to work modeling small wax animals and insects to decorate the candles--which sell out quickly at the farmer's market. Bee facts buzz through this very human story about a child trying to please his father.

## Activity :

1. Discuss the following questions with students:
  - a. Why is it that Jonathan's father isn't happy with the work he is doing on the farm? Why is he expecting Jonathan to be strong and physical?
  - b. What are Jonathan's skills and talent? How are these very valuable in the end?
  - c. Would Jonathan's father have had the same expectations if Jonathan was a girl? How are these expectations (based on gender) called? *Introduce the notion of gender stereotypes.*
2. Through a **talking circle**, ask the students the following questions:
  - a. Have you ever experienced gender discrimination?
  - b. Have you ever witnessed gender discrimination?
  - c. Can you share a time you were compelled to do something or like something usually associated with the other gender? How did your friends and family react? How does it feel to be your true self?