Carpenter bees (Apidae) are solitary but can live with sisters or daughters. Females bore holes in wood & partition nests with wood chips. Territorial males may fly at you but can’t sting.

Plasterer bees (Colletidae) chew leaves into spit balls to plaster their nests in pithy stems.

Long-horned bees (Apidae) are solitary bees. Most build underground nests: a small entrance leads to a branched tunnel containing an egg.

Female parasitic bees invade nests of other bees to lay eggs on the food stored by the host. These kleptoparasite larvae consume all the food (pollen).

Bumble bees (Apidae) are ground-nesters; they can forage > 1 km away.

Mason bees (Megachilidae) are solitary and docile; nesting in cavities, stems or snail shells! Females make mud walls between brood cells and mud packs to seal their nest.

Mining Bees (Andrenidae) are solitary bees. Most build underground nests: a small entrance leads to a branched tunnel containing an egg.

Sweat bees (Halictidae) are common. Most are ground-nesters like Agapostemon & Lasioglossum. Females can make individual cells in communally nests. Others are cavity nesters. They’re called sweat bees because they lick salt from sweat.

Some (Melittidae) bees like Hesperapis, collect plant oils in dry climates.

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Gardeners/farmers use mason bees like Osmia to pollinate crops. Some rear them commercially.

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