Title of the activity:

Bees are the tireless workers of nature

Parental engagement before implementation

After introducing the idea that you want to implement a bioeconomy programme, ask parents if they agree with the school covering the topic of beekeeping, if they can relate to it at all. If parents are not familiar with the topic, you can introduce them to the benefits of bee products.

Try to tackle parental concerns in this phase. Parents will surely raise the issue of allergies. If it is possible, try to organize a visit to a beehive or invite a beekeeper.

Explain what you are planning to do and why, and ask for their ideas on the topic. They may come up with activities that complement the ones in the lesson plan.

Parental engagement during implementation

You can encourage families to register how they are using bee products from putting honey in tea to baking with honey, using propolis-based cosmetics and having beeswax candles. An exchange of recipes could be a good idea, also including the topic of cultural diversity in the bioeconomy project. You can also create a project website or a social media page where they can collect recipes and tips.

Parents can also experiment with using wax at home together, and children may bring their artwork to school where you can organize a bee-themed art show.

Parental engagement after implementation

After the activity is completed, you can do a number of things:

- Ask parents about the activity itself Did they like it? Was it an engaging activity for their children? Would they recommend to do it again?
- Ask parents about the further use of knowledge gained Did they change their practice of buying honey or other bee products? Are they planning to eat more/less honey or source it from somewhere new as a result of the activity?
- Ask parents what kind of learning they think happened during the activity and celebrate it together with the children.