

THE COUNTRYSIDE LANE

Walking along a country side lane,
The hedgerow is bursting with flowers.
Colours of petals like red, orange and blue
Swishing in the summer breeze.

All of a sudden
I see a bee!
Hovering, Humming
Right by me.

It's a *Bombus lapidarius*
Or a red tailed bumblebee
To you, but not me!
Coz I know my bumblebees.

It's a red tail with a red bum
A black and fluffy body
But wait, there's no stripes
It's a female, watch out there's a sting.

I watch it work in fascination
Bouncing from flower to flower
Like a trampoline!
Springing up and down gathering pollen.

I sit and watch silently
As the busy bumblebee works.
I notice it's fluffy legs
And it's pollen baskets filling.

The bee is busy collecting
A natural pollinator.
Loaded up with pollen
To take back to her colony.

Quack, Quack,
Toot! Toot!
Buzz, Hum,
The many sounds of the bumble bee.

My favourite bee is the buff tail
Yellow striped and white bum!
Then there's the garden bumble
Which looks very similar.

The one I really want to see
Is the male white tailed bumble bee.
Yellow with black stripes, also a
white bum.
One day, I'm sure I will!

So when you walk along the
countryside lane,
Full of colour and sounds
Stop, listen and look around
Nature is fantastic.

