**The Beehouse: The Beehive Reimagined**

Since about 2006, beekeepers have noticed that honeybees have been dying in large numbers. This phenomenon has been given the name colony collapse disorder (CCD) and it has continued to plague beekeepers and their bees. Because honey bees are responsible for pollinating one-third of all food, their survival is of utmost importance. While beekeepers have been working hard to help reduce CCD, the involvement of the everyday person would go a long way to helping bees. Currently, there is a stigma of having a beehive in a person’s backyard. The goal of this project is to create a product that blends a positive family experience with education to make people more receptive to having bees in their backyard and to inform them about CCD. The resulting product is a small-scale beehive that is reminiscent of a birdhouse, and thus given the name “beehouse”. The beehouse is a kit that parents put together with their children like a normal birdhouse and hang in their backyard for bees. The kit includes the wood foundation for the beehouse, honeycomb frames, and small dishes for sugar water to attract bees to the beehouse. A book is also included which provides instructions on how to make the beehouse and some basic information about bees and CCD so that families can learn about the bees they will be helping. By giving the beehive a more approachable form geared towards families as well as provide education about bees, the goal would be that more people across the country would be willing to have a place for bees in their own backyard, which in turn will help with CCD.