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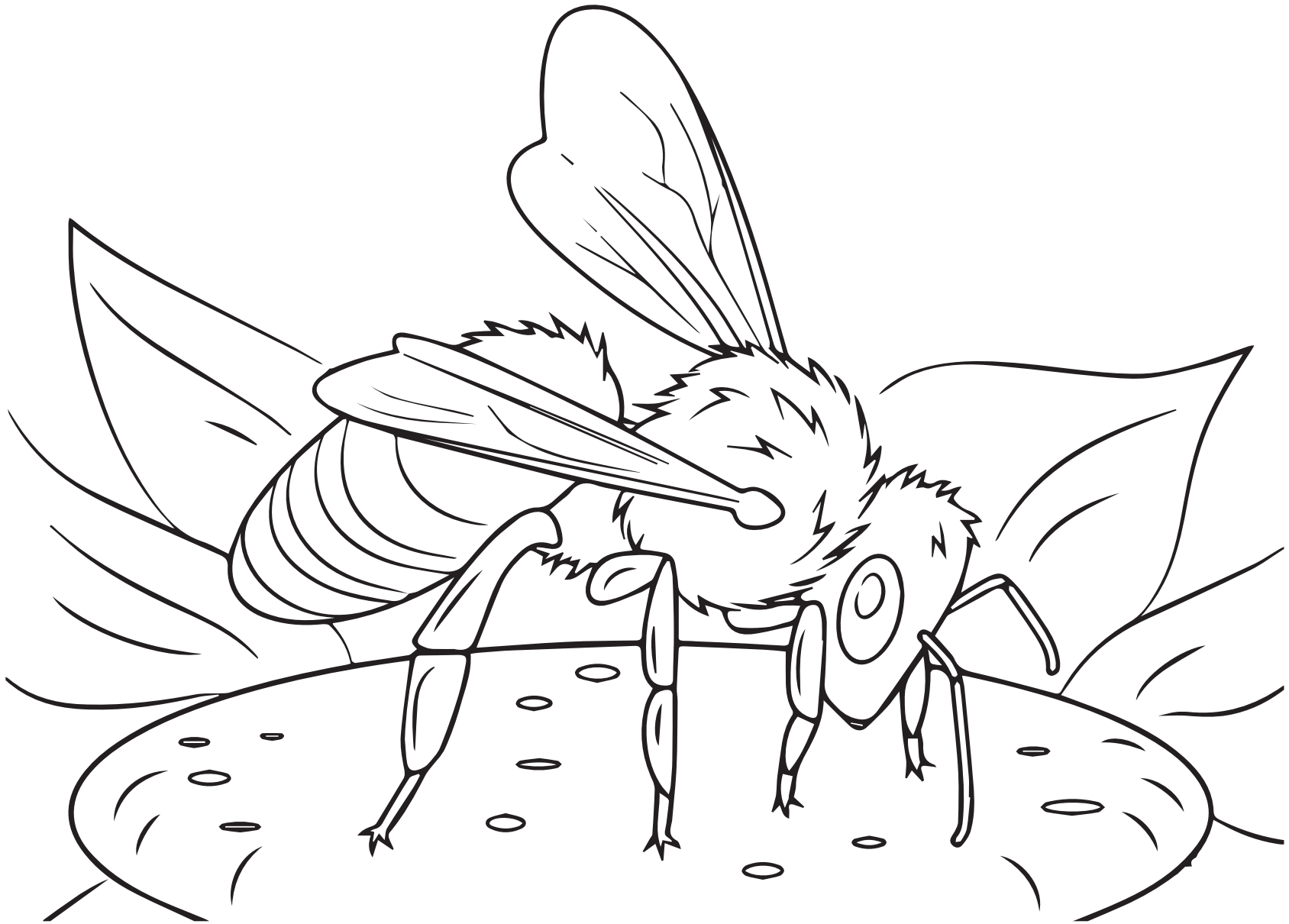
## Hummingbirds

Hummingbirds are amazingly adapted pollinators, and they play an important role in pollination. They have long, slender bills and tube-like tongues that they use to drink nectar from brightly-colored flowers; this gives them the energy they need to fuel their high metabolism.

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## Bees

Many of the country's crops would not exist without the honey bee at bloom time. As honey bees gather pollen and nectar for their survival, they pollinate crops such as apples, cranberries, melons and broccoli. Some crops, including blueberries and cherries, are 90-percent dependent on honey bee pollination.

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## Beetles

Many beetle species eat pollen, so the plants they visit must produce ample amounts of pollen to make sure that there is enough left to pollinate the flower after the beetles are finished eating! Beetles are attracted to spicy or fruity odors. Most of them need a wide opening in the flower, because they are clumsy fliers.

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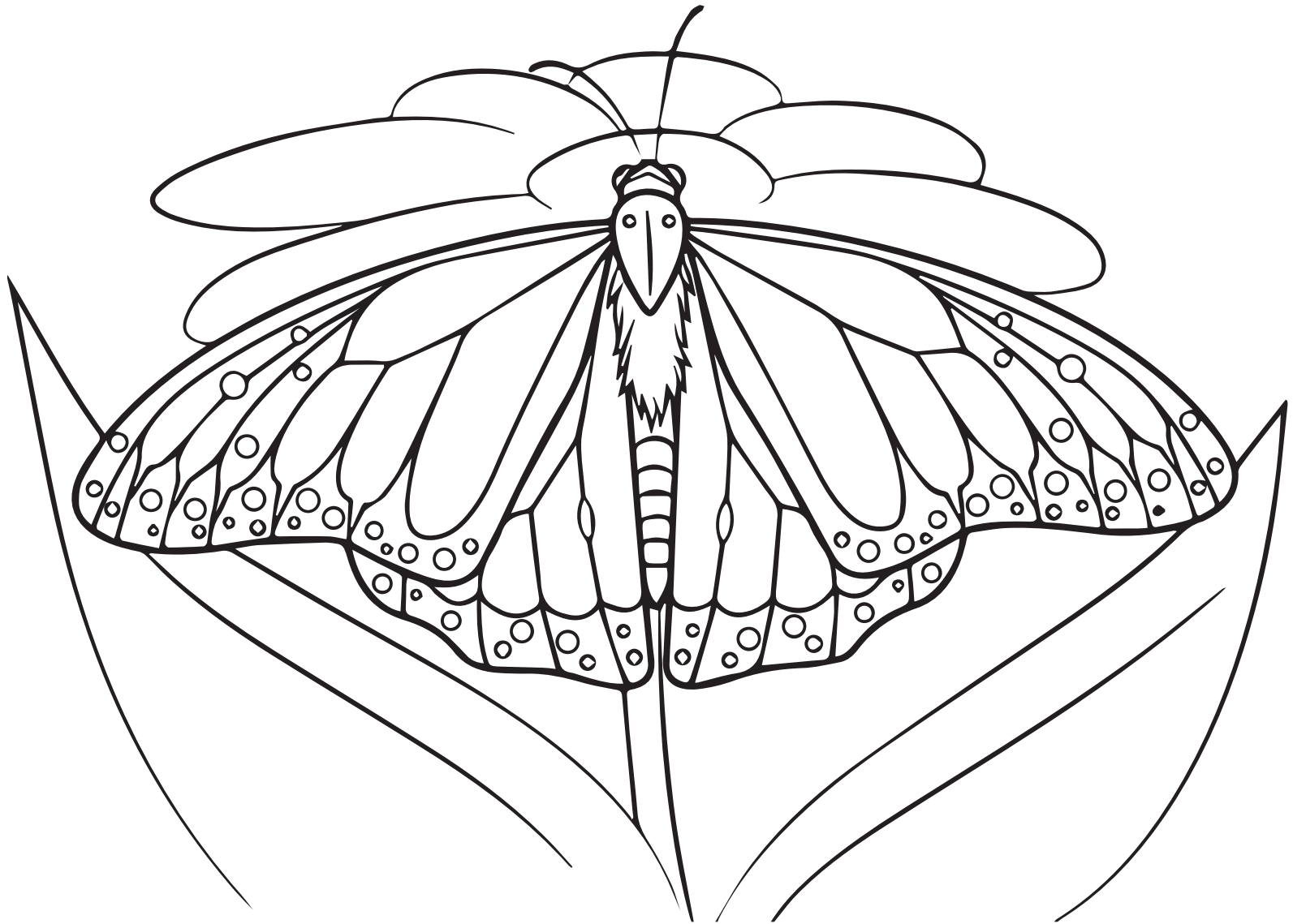
## Caterpillars

Monarch butterflies begin as caterpillars that feed on the leaves of milkweed plants. The milky juice of the plant makes the caterpillars and the adult butterflies distasteful to birds and other predators. Some butterflies, like the viceroy butterfly, are not milkweed eaters, but they mimic the color and patterns of the monarch butterfly as a strategy for survival.

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## Butterflies

Butterflies are very active during the day and visit a variety of wildflowers. Butterflies probe for nectar, their flight fuel, and typically favor the flat, clustered flowers that provide a landing pad and abundant rewards. Butterflies have good vision, but a weak sense of smell. Unlike bees, butterflies can see red.

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