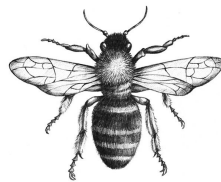
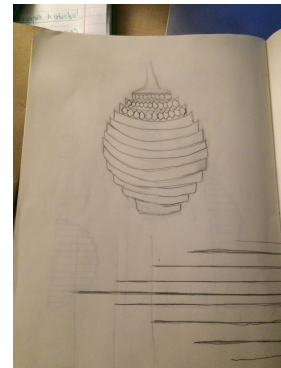
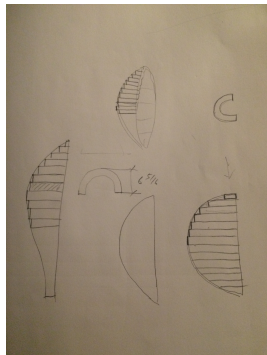


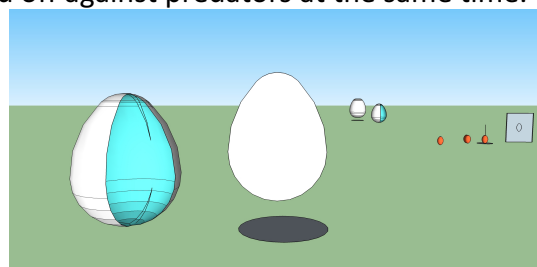
The bee population is declining, and fast. Insects are vital to the circle of life and for the survival of the human race. In fact, for each person on Earth, there are 200 million bugs alive. However, one species that is especially suffering from industrial agriculture are bees. Studies are showing that bee colonies are decreasing from about 6,000,000 back in 1945 down to 3,000,000 in 2005. This is an issue all of us should be worried about because one third of our food depends on their pollination. On average, one in every 3 bites of food humans consume have been pollinated by a bee. If the decrease in bee population continues to go in the direction it's headed, and humans had to artificially create the work bees do naturally, the economic value of bee's pollination work has been estimated out to be around \$328 billion dollars annually worldwide. This is why if we pitch in and make sure our bee friends don't die out, the entire world will benefit. One possible solution is creating "Insect Hotels," or a home for the bees.



There are several requirements for a man made bee home. Bees need protection from other predators out in nature, such as birds, and protection from rainy weather is also needed. Bees usually build their honey combs in protected cavities, so vertical bark and twigs acts as a support for them to build upon.



Since the urban Ash wood we were given isn't able to be made into a flexible curve, I designed a topographic shape instead. It's important that the bees have small openings to travel into, but are guarded off against predators at the same time.





My ideas weren't fully able to be shown in both my SketchUp and cardboard models. My cardboard layers would be made more into shelves out of wood, with thicker widths than is able to be presented in cardboard. The shape was also represented in SketchUp, however, my topographic edges were not.



Overall, this project pushed me to create things I didn't imagine possible. For the majority of our class, it was our first time using woodshop machines. Setting off to work in areas you never have ventured before, after seeing that you are capable of doing so, gives you a sense of newly-found confidence. And all-the-while, creating something that you know is for a good cause and can make a difference in this world is fulfilling and also empowering, to say the very least. Even though my personal class size was only around a mere dozen students, all of our classes combined can not only make a difference for our environment, but inform and educate those around us to do the same. One thing one of the professors, Katie Martin-Meuer, has said, "We put art into the world all the time. So often, people don't understand, and people

don't care because they think they don't understand. This is a chance for us to reach out to those people."