**Knitted Great Yellow Bumble Bee**

**Materials:**

Double knitting wool

Double pointed Knitting needles 3.75

Toy stuffing

Black waxed linen thread ( available from bead shops)

Cast on 6 stitches with yellow

Row 1. Increase knitwise into every stitch (12 st)

Row 2. P1 Increase purlwise into every stitch to last st. P1 (22 st)

Join Grey

In SS work 1 row grey 2 rows yellow 4 times

Work 6 rows in yellow

Work 2 rows in black

Work 5 rows in yellow

Work 1 row black

Next row: K1 K2 tog. To last st. K1. (15 st)

P2 tog to last st P1 (8 st)

K2 tog. Across row (4 st)

Cut wool and thread darning needle. Thread through 4 stitches on needle.

**To Make Up**

With right sides together sew up in stripe colours to last 4 rows.

Turn right side out and stuff firmly with toy stuffing.

Finish sewing last few rows. You should now have a sausage shape.

With black wool gather around 4 rows down on head end and pull up tightly and fasten off. This will be between the black and yellow

With yellow wool gather 5 rows up from the last grey stripe.

Gather tightly and wrap wool around body tightly and fasten off.

You should now have a bee with a head, thorax and abdomen.

Make the antennae on the third row back from fastening off.

With black wool add antennae by taking wool into head where you want the first antenna. Come up one stitch away towards the middle of the head, leaving an end of wool the length of the antenna. Take needle down in the same place as the end of wool and out where you want the second antenna. Take the wool down a stitch away towards the centre of the head and up again where you want the second antenna. Cut wool to the same length as the first antenna. This sound complicated but after you have done one you will realise that it is easy.

Sew in 3 pairs of legs with waxed linen in the same way as the antennae – these are spaced evenly down the thorax from the ‘neck’ to the’ waist’