

Pollination

WHAT IS POLLEN?



A fine powder made by flowers that helps plants make new seeds

WHO ARE SOME COMMON POLLINATORS?

Bees, butterflies, moths, flies, bats, hummingbirds, and humans

NATIVES
DO IT
BEST

DO YOU EVER GET HUNGRY?



Flowers produce a sweet, sugar rich liquid called nectar. Hungry pollinators from all over are attracted to the nectar. While pollinators messily try to reach the nectar at the base of the flower, they unknowingly coat themselves in pollen. As they move from flower to flower, the pollen coated on them is transferred to the reproductive parts of other flowers.

WHY POLLINATE?

Without pollinators, some flowers would never develop into fruits or seeds!



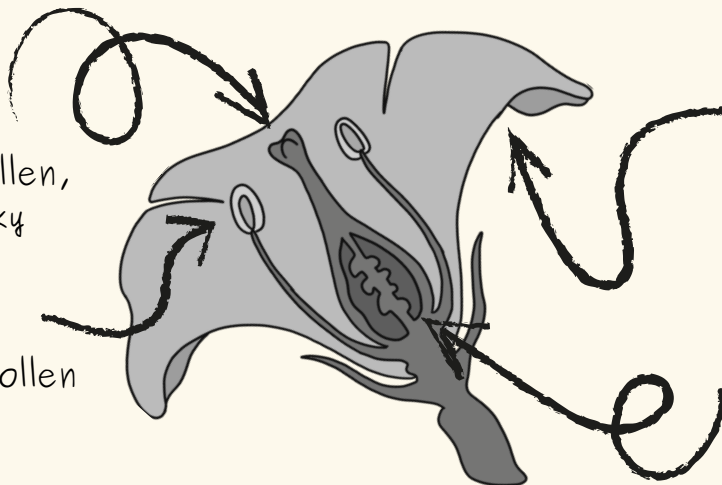
FLOWER ANATOMY:

Stigma:

*Collects pollen, usually sticky

Anther:

*Produces pollen



Petals:

*Attracts pollinators with colors and patterns

Ovary:

*Holds seeds, eventually swells into fruit

"Be a pollinator" Activity

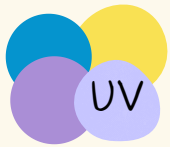


split your class into small groups and assign each one a pollinator.

show your students the chart below and explain that each pollinator has a preferred color of flower that they are attracted to.

Say, "As we walk around the conservatory look for flowers that your pollinator would visit. How many could you pollinate?"

Bee



Moth



Bat



Butterfly



Fly



Hummingbird



Going Further:

Say, "Why do you think moths and bats, pollinators that primarily active at night prefer flowers that are white or light yellow?"

Say, "If you were a pollinator what color flowers would you pollinate?"