



Pollinators

Activity 2: Pollination Evaluation (Part 1)

Evaluate what happens to plants that are visited by insects, are not visited by insects or are manually pollinated.



KEY WORDS

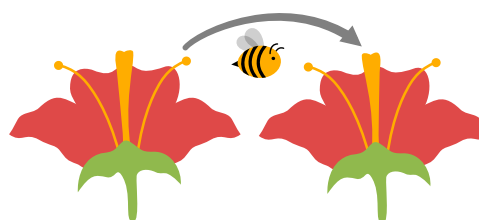
Pollination: The transfer of pollen to a plant to allow for fertilization.

Pollinator: An insect or other animal that transfers pollen from one plant to another to allow for fertilization.

Pollen: A fine powdery substance consisting of microscopic grains discharged from the male part of a flower or from a male cone. Each grain contains a male gamete that can fertilize the female ovule, to which pollen is transported by wind, insects or other animals.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- Paint strainer bags (for netting flowers)
- Twist ties for affixing nets to flowers
- Flagging tape for marking flowers





How Do You Do This?

1. Net some flowers that are unopened and others that are already opened.
2. Manually pollinate some flowers that are newly open by transferring pollen from one flower of the same species to another. Net the flowers.
3. Mark the flowers using the flagging tape.
4. Return two weeks later to do Part 2 of this activity.

Dive Deeper

1. Look up examples and online videos of manual pollination.
2. Discuss and compare insect pollination to manual pollination.

RESOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL LEARNING

- [Vegetable Pollinator Stewardship Guide](#)
- Insect Pollination of Crops
- [Insect Pollination of Cultivated Crop Plants](#)
- [Pollinator Champions](#) online course
- [Managing Alternative Pollinators](#)
- [Five steps to protect bees from pesticides](#)

