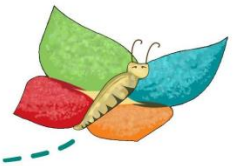
# Pollinator Backyard Activity Guide!



Did you know that about 75% of all plants need pollinators? That means that much of the food we get from plants also relies on pollinators. Foods like apples, almonds, pumpkins, or even chocolate (from the cocoa bean) are all products of pollination! So what is it about pollination that makes it so important?

Name: _____

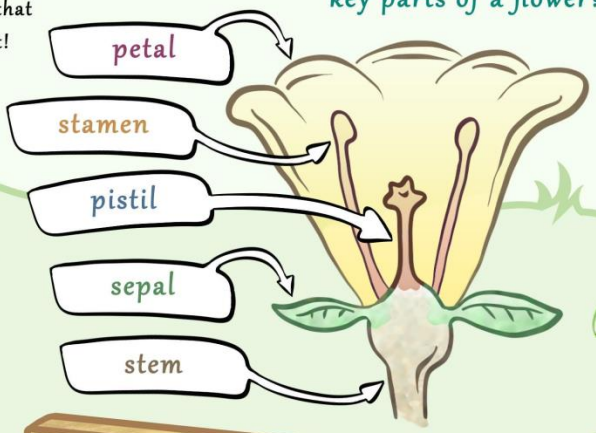
Date: _____

Draw a picture of one of the pollinators you find!

Pollination is the movement of pollen within flowers, or from one flower to another of the same species, that allows for fertilization and the production of seeds and fruits. When animals such as birds, bees, butterflies or other bugs visit a flower to drink nectar, pollen dust from the **stamen** clings to their legs and bodies and is carried with the animal as it visits other flowers, depositing the pollen it has picked up along the way. When pollen contacts a flower's **pistil**, it travels down to the base of the flower to produce a seed or fruit. We call the animals that help move pollen "pollinators!"

**Find some flowers near you and use the activities on this worksheet to explore the pollinators that come to visit!**

## Can you identify the key parts of a flower?




## Build your own Hummingbird Feeder!

Turn a plastic soda bottle into a hummingbird feeder! Remove any label from the bottle and cut a hole about the size of your thumbprint 2 inches from the bottom. Have an adult help you boil 2 cups of water with 1/2 cup of white sugar. This will be the nectar! Decorate the outside of the bottle to look like a flower around the hole. (Hint: hummingbirds like the color RED!) Once your nectar has cooled, pour it into the bottle so that it fills up to the bottom of the hole. Tie a string around the neck of the bottle and find a place to hang it outside. Wait quietly to see if any hummingbirds come by for a drink!

(Make sure to keep the water level full and change out the "nectar" every few days.)

## Count how many of each pollinator you see.


To learn more about pollinators and what you can do to help them out, visit: **EarthGauge.net**


**Sources:**

National Environmental Education Foundation

Pollinator Partnership

National Wildlife Federation


National Environmental Education Foundation

Knowledge to live by