

PROJECT INSPIRE LESSON PLAN

POLLINATORS

Curriculum Objectives

In this workshop, students learn about some of the different species of pollinators that are commonly found in the garden. Students will be taught what materials (e.g. bamboo) and habitat designs (e.g. flat surfaces) different species (including butterflies and bees) are attracted to when choosing a nesting or hibernation site. Students will learn why pollinators are important and what services they provide the garden. Students will also learn the difference between good garden bugs and bad garden bugs and examples of each.

Activity Part 1: Insect Hotels

In this activity, students will have the opportunity to make “insect hotels” where insects can live through the winter. To complete this activity, students will paint tin cans and fill them with leaves and sticks they collect from outside. The items in the can are used to create a warm place for insects to live through the winter. Once completed, the filled cans (“insect hotels”) will be hung on a vertical wooden structure and left outside all winter.

Materials

- Clean, empty tin cans with a small hole drilled in the bottom
- A wooden structure with protruding nails for hanging the cans
- Paint
- Paintbrushes
- Skinny bamboo or sticks cut into 6 inch pieces

Details

Location: School or location of choice

Lesson: Indoor or Outdoors

Activity: Outdoors

Partners: The Green Heart Project

Age: Elementary school



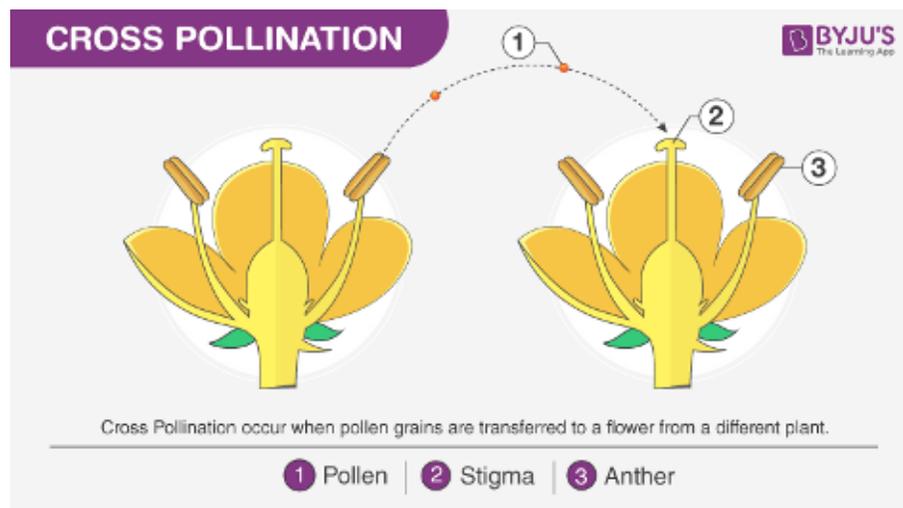
Activity 2: Insect Pollination Game

Divide the group into teams and arrange them in lines at one end of the space. At the other end of the space two tubs are placed on the ground, one with red powder and the other with white powder. The first member of each team runs to the first tub carrying a cotton bud and collects some “pollen.” The team member returns to their team and deposits the pollen in a collecting dish. The child repeats this activity for the second tub of different colored pollen. The remaining team members take turns until they have all completed the activity.

The children think the aim of the game is to collect the most pollen in their collecting dishes. However, in doing so, they have in fact mixed up the colors in the two tubs of “pollen” showing how cross-pollination takes place.

Materials

- Two tubs
- Red and white powder
- Cotton swab



Source: [BYJU'S](#)

Additional Resources

- [Gardening for Pollinators](#) (USDA website)
- [Attracting Pollinators to the Garden](#) (blog)
- [How to Build a Bug Hotel](#) (video)
- [DIY Garden Bug Hotel](#) (video)
- [Pollination Games and Activities](#) (website)
 - Includes directions for other pollination-related games for kids. This website provides Nature Modules and other useful resources as well as games and activities.
- [Pollination Lesson with Stop Science Animation for Kids](#) (video)
- [Pollination and Seed Dispersal](#) (video and other lesson materials)