



Let's review the different parts of a plant. (roots, stems, Branches, Leaves, FLOWERS, and seeds)

Today you are going to learn more about flowers. Let's look at some flowers and name them.





Daisy







Violet



Linnia



Pansey



Marigold



Sweet Pea



Lupine





California Poppy

Many animals like flowers, just like people do. Today you will get a chance to listen to a special guest, Polly the Honeybee. Polly loves flowers! Today you will hear about how Polly and her honeybee friends help flowers. Listen carefully to learn how Polly and her honeybee friends help flowers.



Hello, my name is Polly and I'm a honeybee. I live in a beehive in a meadow not too far from here. A meadow is a flat area of land that is usually covered with grass and flowers.



Your teacher asked me to come here today to tell you more about flowers, my favorite part of plants. As you have learned, flowers contain seeds and seeds can grow into new plants.



I am delighted to come and tell you about flowers, because flowers are one of my favorite things in the whole world. The meadow near my beehive is full of all different kinds of flowers that come in many different colors.

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Earlier today, I visited a particularly delicious yellow flower. Come along, and I'll show it to you.

Why might Polly describe a flower as delicious?

Here's the flower I was telling you about. Do you see this ring of bright yellow parts around the flower? Those are called petals. The petals look like brightly colored leaves. The petals are the parts of the flower that grab my attention when I am out buzzing around.

Once I see a pretty flower, my favorite thing to do is crawl inside the petals, into the center of the flower.

What's it like to crawl inside a flower like this? Imagine for a minute that you are crawling under the bright yellow blankets of a very comfortable bed.



Bright yellow is all around you. Now imagine that you stay under the blankets drinking the world's tastiest drink through a straw.

You are so happy that you wriggle around and get covered with a yellow powder that smells great and feels good against your skin.

That's what it's like for me when I visit a flower.

How does Polly feel when she visits a flower?

As far as I'm concerned, the world's tastiest drink is called nectar, which is a sweet juice that plants make, and the yellow powder that I like to rub up against is called pollen

Say nectar and pollen with me.

I find both nectar and pollen inside flowers, and, frankly, I'm not sure which one I like better!

l visit more than fifty flowers in one outing--sometimes as many as a hundred. I visit these flowers because we bees get our food from flowers.

My job is to fly around and find nectar and pollen, which I gather up and take back to my hive. I have a special pouch inside my body that holds nectar, and there are special hairs on my back legs that form a little basket that I brush pollen into.



When it's time to go back to my hive, sometimes my load of pollen and nectar weighs half as much as I do!

Do you think it is easy or difficult for a bee to take nectar and pollen to its hive?

When I get back to the hive, I turn the nectar and pollen over to the worker bees in the hive. They mix the pollen with a little bit of nectar and feed it to the baby bees. Then they fan the rest of the nectar with their wings until most of the water is gone.

Nectar with most of the water gone turns into something that both bees and people love.

Nectar with most of the water removed is called honey. Here's the honey in my hive. People use honey to sweeten their food.

We bees use honey for food. We keep it in a bunch of little cubbies that we call the honeycomb.

I visit flowers to get food, and that's reason enough for me. But it turns out that I am also doing something else besides finding food for myself and the other bees. I am helping the plants reproduce, or make more plants!

In order to make a seed that can develop into a new plant, most plants need to mix pollen from their own flowers with pollen from other plants that are like them. Remember pollen is the yellow powder bees find inside fowers.

For example, a corn plant needs pollen from another corn plant to allow it to make seeds. When pollen from one corn plant lands on another corn plant, something called **pollination** takes place.

Pollination is when pollen from one flower mixes with the pollen of another flower so that the plant can make seeds. Pollination is really important because, if it doesn't happen, the plant won't be able to make any seeds.

If there are no seeds, then there will be no new plants.

How do plants get pollen from other plants? Plants can't walk around like human beings. And they can't flap their wings and fly like us bees, either. Luckily, the pollen grains themselves are very small. They can be blown from one plant to another by the wind.



So the wind helps pollinate plants so they can make new plants. But bees, like me, also help

pollinate plants! How do my trips from one plant to another help pollinate plants? When I visit a flower and roll around inside, I pick up a lot of pollen.

When I fly on to the next flower, I carry some pollen from other flowers with me, and some of it rubs off on the next flower I visit. That's why I am an excellent pollinator of plants, and that is why they call me Polly the Pollinator!

Take a guess: Which do you think pollinates more plants--the wind or bees?



I don't like to brag, but we bees are the most important pollinators in the world! Oh, sure, the wind helps pollinate, and some other insects also carry grains of pollen from one plant to another as they feed. 'Butterflies do it too.

So do moths, beetles, and wasps. Some birds, like hummingbirds, are also good pollinators. Bats are good pollinators, too! But no other creature pollinates as many flowers as bees do.

´So, do bees or the wind pollinate more plants?



Comprehension Questions:

Literal

Where are the petals in this picture?

Comprehension Questions: Why do bees visit flowers?

Comprehension Questions:

What is pollen?

Literal

Comprehension Questions:

How do bees collect nectar and pollen?

(Bees STORE NECTAR IN A SPECIAL POUCH ON THEIR BELLY. BEES BRUSH THE POLLEN INTO A LITTLE BASKET MADE BY HAIRS ON THE BACK OF THEIR LEGS.)

Comprehension Questions:

How do bees help a plant pollinate, or mix its pollen with the pollen of another plant?

(WHEN BEES VISIT ANOTHER PLANT, SOME OF THE POLLEN BEES CARRY FROM THE FIRST PLANT RUBS OFF ONTO THE SECOND PLANT.)

Comprehension Questions:

Why is pollination important?

(POLLINATION IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE PLANTS NEED POLLEN FROM OTHER PLANTS IN ORDER TO MAKE SEEDS.)



I'm going to ask you a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.



Word Work Explicit Vocabulary Instruction

In the read aloud you heard, "When pollen from one corn plant lands on another corn plant, something called **pollination** takes place."

> Say the word **pollination** with me. Whisper pollination to the ceiling. Whisper pollination to your neighbor.

Pollination happens when the pollen from two flowers mix and seeds are made.

Honeybees help a lot with the **pollination** of plants.

What other ways could **pollination** happen?

(ANSWER'S COULD INCLUDE THE WIND, MOTHS, BEETLES, WASPS, BUTTERFLIES, BIRDS, AND BATS, AMONG OTHERS)

Try to use the word pollination when you tell about it. **"Pollination** could also happen when _____."

Polly the Honeybee's Flower Tour What's the word we have been talking about?

Let's clap it out.