The Fruits of Polly's Labor

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Plants have different parts. What are the important parts of a plant?

Today you are going to learn more about another plant part, the fruit.

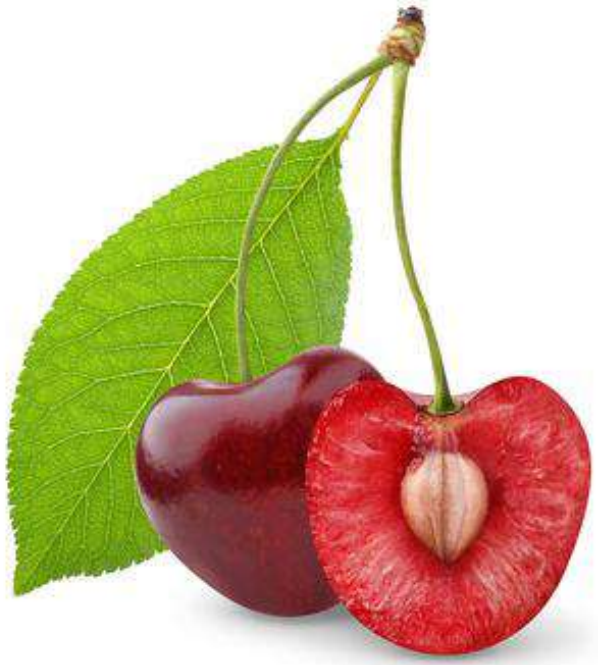
The Fruits of Polly's Labor

The pollination process helps plants make seeds. The fruit is the part of the plant that contains the seed.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Tomato

The Fruits of Polly's Labor



Cherry

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Peach

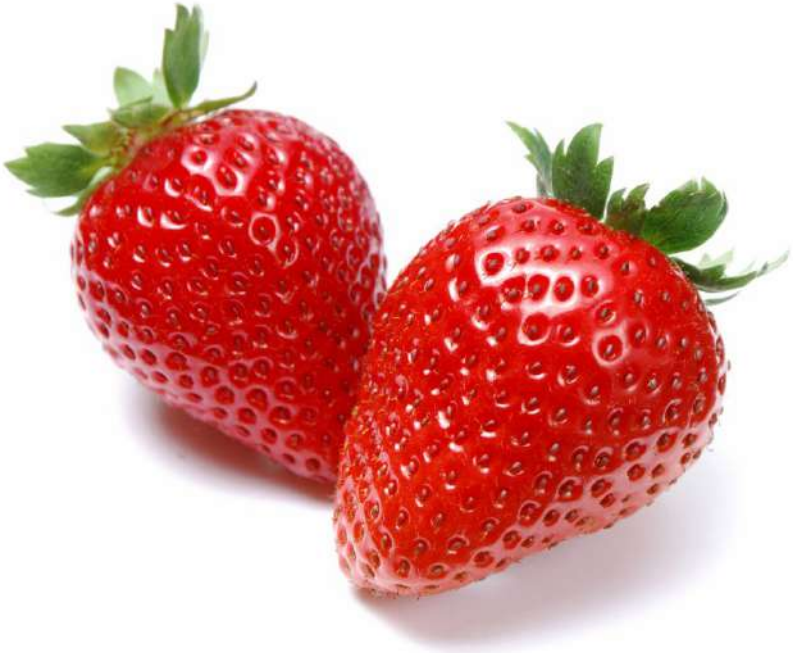
The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Plum

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Pear

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

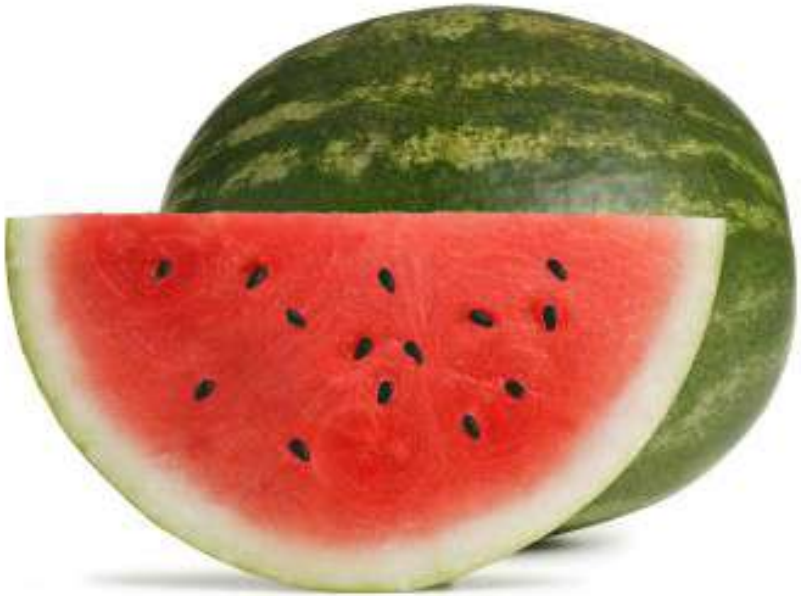


Strawberries

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Kiwi

The Fruits of Polly's Labor



Watermelon

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Apricot

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Today's read aloud is titled "The Fruits of Polly's Labor". The fruits of someone's labor are the results of, of what happened because of, someone's hard work. Listen carefully to find out more about the fruits of Polly's labor and this delicious plant part.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Buzz, buzz! It's Polly the Honeybee again. Last time I told you that I visit flowers to collect nectar and pollen for food. I also told you that I help to pollinate flowers by carrying pollen from one flower to another.

What else carries pollen from one flower to another?

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Today I want to show you some of the results of my hard work. You see, after I pollinate a flower, the plant begins to produce seeds. To produce means to make. Lots of plants also produce a special part to hold the seeds called the fruit.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Come along and I will show you some different kinds of fruit that I helped create.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Here's an apple tree. Earlier this year, this tree put out **blossoms**, which is another word for flowers. Apple blossoms are full of delicious nectar, which makes me especially love to buzz over and roll around in those blossoms. The nectar was **scrumptious**! Scrumptious is another word for delicious.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

But look! It was good for the tree, too. Remember that when bees visit the flowers of plants, they carry pollen from one flower to another. Remember this is called pollination. This apple tree is now full of apples because my honeybee friends and I did such a good job pollinating the blossoms.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

The apples are fruit, and inside each apple are seeds that can grow into new apple trees.

The apples took weeks to grow. They were small at first, but then they got bigger and bigger. Now they are almost ripe. When the apples are ripe, they will drop off the tree so the seeds can fall to the ground and start growing into a new apple tree. Or, a person may come and pick the apple and eat it.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

This is an image of an apple that has been picked off a tree, then sliced, or cut, in half. You can see the seeds. The seeds are the dark brown things in the center part, called the **core.** Some people like to cut the seeds out of the apple before they eat it. Some people also cut off the peel on the outside of the apple.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Here's another tree I pollinated. It's called a cherry tree. Some time ago, this tree produced lovely pink blossoms, or flowers. Let me tell you--there's almost nothing more beautiful than a cherry tree in full bloom. My bee buddies and I spent a lot of time visiting this tree when the blossoms were out, and look what's happened since then!

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

The flowers are all gone now, but that's okay because they did what they were supposed to do. Now the tree has begun to make seeds and fruit.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Have you ever bitten into a fresh cherry? If you have, your teeth have probably bumped into a cherry seed. Inside a cherry is a big hard thing called a cherry pit. Here the word pit means the hard part in the middle of some fruits that contains the seed. The word pit can have other meanings. The word pit also means a hole. The seed of the cherry is actually inside the cherry pit.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

The tasty part of the cherry that people eat is the soft fruit around the pit. To people, that seems like the important part of a cherry. But, to the plant, the most important part is the seed that can grow into a new plant.

Why do you think the seed is the most important part of the plant?

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Now here's a different kind of plant. This is a strawberry plant. It put out flowers a while ago, and my honey-making pals and I visited those flowers as well.

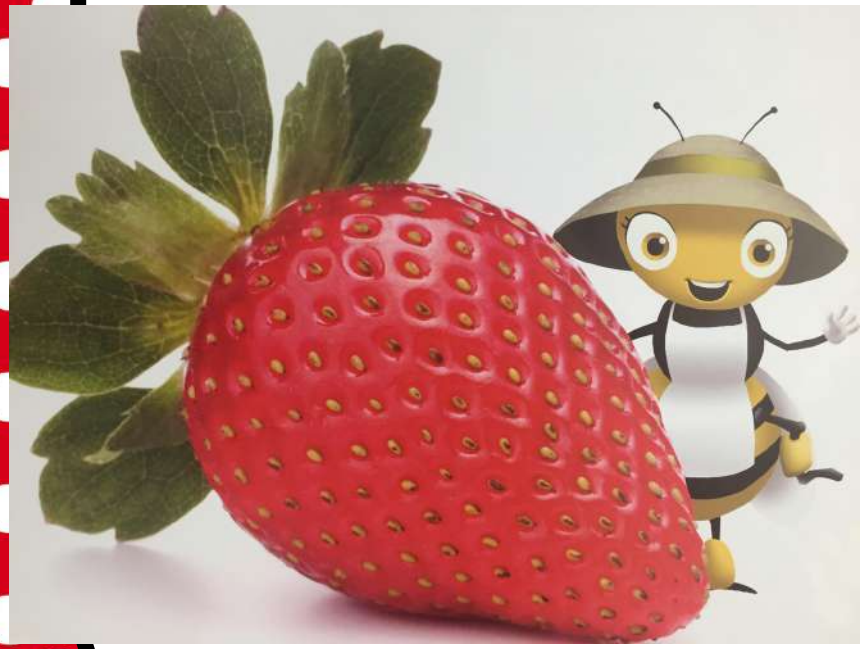
Who are Polly's honey-making pals?

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Now you can see that the plant is making seeds and fruit. We must have pollinated it! The fruits on this plant are called strawberries. You saw how the seeds of the apple and cherry tree grow inside the fruit. With the strawberry it's the other way around.

"The other way around" means the opposite. What is the opposite of inside the fruit?

The Fruits of Polly's Labor



Look at this ripe strawberry. You can see the seeds all over the outside of the strawberry. The seeds on this strawberry are so small that people can eat them along with the fruit.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Here's one last plant. It's a watermelon plant. This watermelon plant bloomed a few weeks ago. I visited its flowers and found the nectar to be quite delicious. I brought some back to my hive, where the worker bees made it into honey. But, look! The watermelon plant has been busy making something, too! This big green thing is the fruit of the watermelon plant. It's called a watermelon.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

The green part on the outside of the watermelon is called the rind. The seeds of the watermelon are on the inside of the rind, along with some red, juicy fruit that people like to eat. Here's a watermelon that's been sliced open. Can you see the black and white seeds inside? People spit out the seeds when they are eating the red, squishy part of the watermelon.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Well, that about concludes my little tour. I'm very proud of the pollinating work I did this year, and hope you will think of me as you are munching on the fruits of my labor!

Delicious fruit is truly the result of Polly's hard work carrying pollen from flower to flower!

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

What do we call the special part of a plant that hold seeds?

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

What is another word for blossom?

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

What are some of the fruits that Polly mentioned? Do people eat these fruits? Can you describe the seeds of each of these fruits?

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Comprehension Questions:

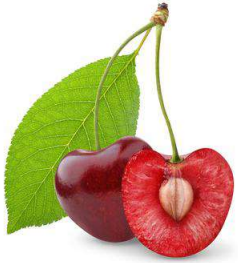
Inferential

Why are the seeds important?

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Comprehension Questions:

Evaluative



How are cherries and their seeds the same as or different from apples and their seeds?

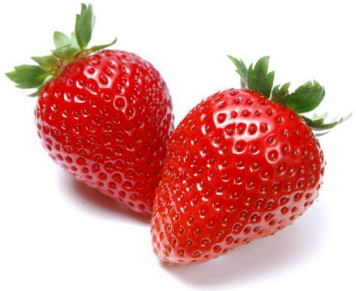
Think. Pair. Share.

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.

Think. Pair. Share.

Evaluative:

How are strawberry seeds different from apple seeds?



Word Work

Explicit Vocabulary Instruction

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

In the read aloud you heard, "Lots of plants also produce a special part to hold the seeds called the **fruit**."

Say the word **fruit** with me.
Whisper fruit to the ceiling.
Whisper fruit to your neighbor.
Let's clap it out.

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Fruit *is the part of the plant that holds the seeds.*

My favorite **fruit** *is the apple because it is delicious in pies.*

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

Tell about your favorite **fruit**.

Try to use the word fruit when you tell about it.

"My favorite **fruit** is _____ because..."

The Fruits of Polly's Labor

What's the word we have been talking about?

Let's clap it out.