Practice Pollinators

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Objective: Learn how pollinators spread pollen from flower to flower

Pollination is a fascinating process. When a pollinator lands on a flower, pollen sticks all over their bodies.

When the pollinators move to the next flower, they bring pollen with it and transfer the old pollen to new plants! This process helps plants reproduce and grow some of our favorite foods.

Supplies Needed

-1/4 cup powdered sugar
-4 sheets of black paper
-Gold marker
-Paper plate

Many bees carry pollen around in "pollen baskets" on their hind legs flying from flower to flower.

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1. Draw large flowers on each sheet of paper with the gold marker. Pour 1/4 c powdered sugar onto paper plate

2. Pick one flower and pour some of the powdered sugar in the middle. Place your hand on the sugar

3. Without dusting off your hand, place your hand in the middle of the second, third and fourth flower.

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Helpful Tips:

-Observe the bits of powdered sugar left on each flower. This represents pollen left behind by pollinators when they fly from flower to flower.

-Try using different "pollen" material for each flower. You can use glitter, sand, dirt, or similar material. Give each flower a certain pollen to start with. After "pollinating" with your hands observe how "pollen" from each flower has been transferred and mixed together.

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Source: https://littlecooksreadingbooks.com/pollinator-craft/