

Help the bee find the pollen in the flower.

Ask MAXINE!



Question: It seems like most pollinators are pretty small. I would like to know what the smallest pollinator is and what the largest pollinator is.

Maxine worked for NACD for 47 years. That's why we always ask Maxine.

Answer: One of the **smallest** pollinators is *Perdita minima*. It is a tiny bee found in the southwestern United States. This bee is less than two millimeters long! It eats the nectar and pollen of wildflowers.

2 mm

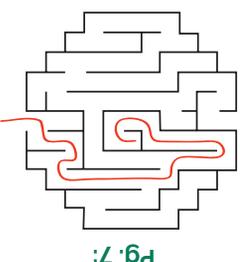


Perdita Minima on a Carpenter bee's head!

It likes to build its nest in sandy desert soils. One of the **largest** pollinators is the **black and white ruffed lemur**. On the island of Madagascar, it is the main pollinator of the Traveler's Palm Tree. The flowers on these trees have very tough leaves around them.



This lemur is the only animal with the strength to crack the leaves and get to the pollen in the flowers!



Answer Key: Pg. 1: #1 honeybee on strawberry flower, #2 pollen on honeybee, #3 strawberry plant, #4 child eating strawberry.
 Pg. 2: Honey bee – This pollinator has lots of little hairs...
 Butterfly – This pollinator likes wildflowers...
 Beetle – This pollinator likes to eat the petals...
 Bat – This pollinator eats insects...
 Pg. 5: breathe, dairy, flowering, foods, healthy, medicines, plants, pollinate, roots, soil.
 Pg. 6: Pollinators are Heroes


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 NACD stewardship@nacdnnet.org
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 for additional resources
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Where would we
BEE
without Pollinators?





A honeybee is a **pollinator**. **Pollinators** visit flowers to find food.

While the **pollinator** is eating, **pollen** from the flower may stick to its body. As the **pollinator** moves from flower to flower, the **pollen** it is carrying also gets moved from flower to flower.



What do Honeybees have to do with Strawberries?

Pollen looks like tiny grains.

P LLINATION!!

Plants use **pollen** from other plants to make seeds and fruit - like strawberries!

A lot of the good food we eat comes from plants that have been **pollinated**.

Which is First??

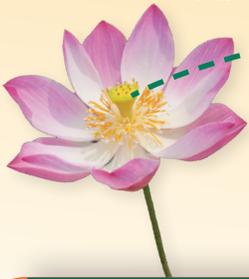
Look at each picture. **Number** each picture in the order that you think they happen.



Meet Some Pollinators



A **pollinator** is an animal that carries **pollen** on its body from one flower to another. **Pollinators** visit flowers to drink nectar or eat **pollen**. Some examples of **pollinators** are: **birds, bees, beetles and bats.**



Pollinators help **pollinate** more than **1,200** crops. That means that **1** out of every **3** bites of food you eat depends upon **pollinators!**

Draw lines to match the pollinator with the description of how it collects pollen.



Beetle



Bat



Honey Bee



Butterfly

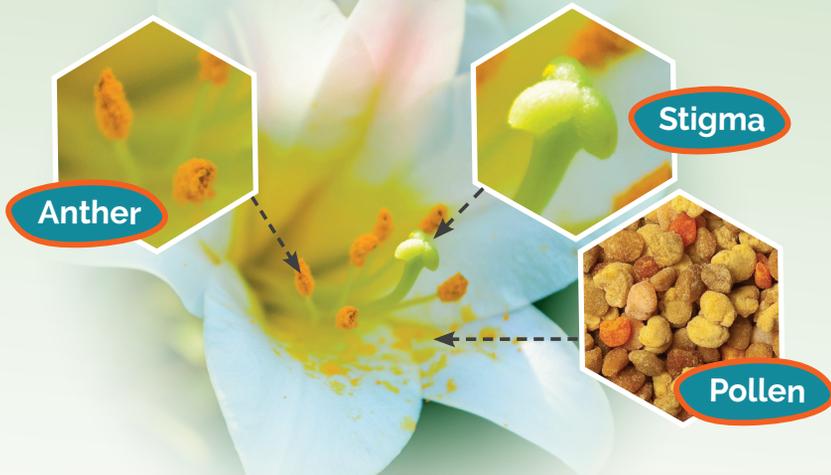
This pollinator likes wildflowers. It picks up small amounts of pollen as it looks for nectar. It has long skinny legs and picks flat shaped flowers that help give it a landing pad. **Pollinator Point:** This pollinator tastes with its feet!

This pollinator eats insects, flower parts and pollen at night. It gets pollen on its face while eating. **Pollinator Point:** This pollinator migrates over a thousand miles every spring!

This pollinator likes to eat the petals, pollen and nectar found in flowers with a strong smell. Pollen falls onto its body as it eats. **Pollinator Point:** These pollinators have been nicknamed the "mess and soil" pollinators!

This pollinator has lots of little hairs on its body. Pollen sticks to the hairs. It moves the pollen from the hairs to a pollen basket on its hind legs. **Pollinator Point:** Even the eyes of these pollinators have hairs!

How does *Pollination* happen??



Pollen is a very small grain, and it is sticky.

Pollen can be found on the male part of a flower. The male part of the flower is the **anther**.

The female part of the flower is the **stigma**.



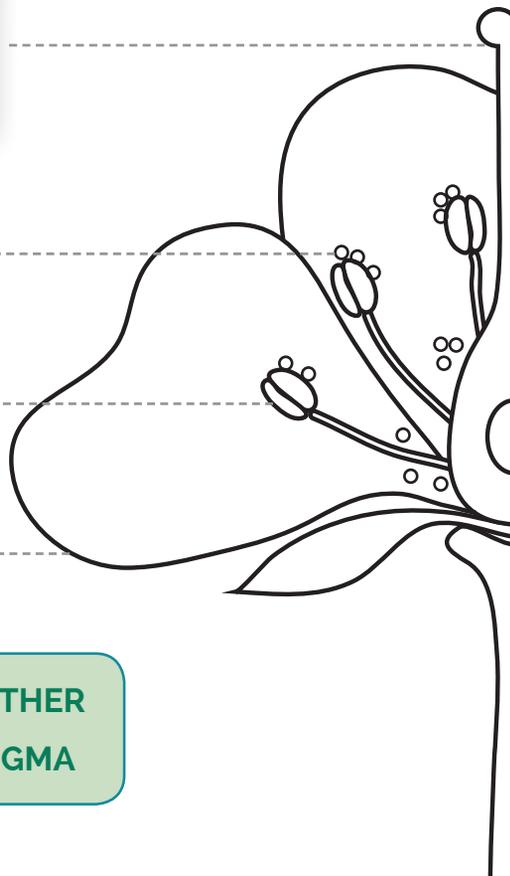
1 **Pollination** happens when a **pollen** grain is moved from the anther of a flower to the stigma.

2 When a plant is **pollinated**, it can produce seeds and fruit.

3 **Pollination** gives us foods like bananas, strawberries, peaches, apples and lots more!



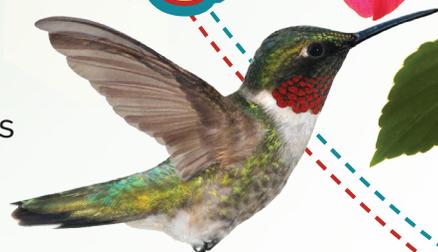
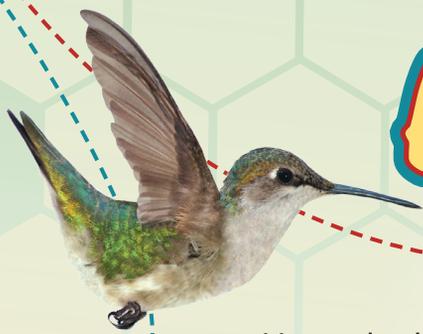
Finish **drawing** the flower.
Color the flower.
Use a word from the word list to **label** the parts of the flower.



Word List

PETAL	ANTHER
POLLEN	STIGMA

A Pollinator with Feathers

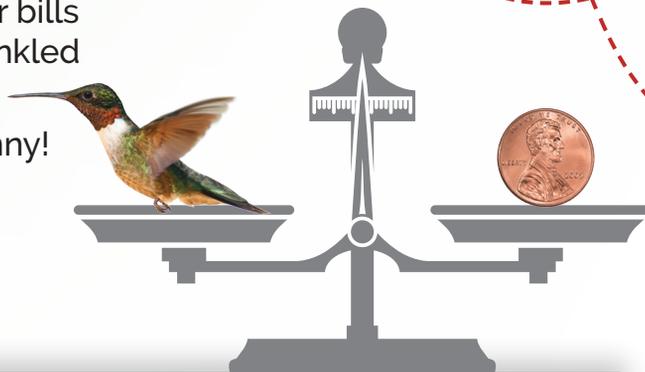


Hummingbirds are **pollinators**. They are called hummingbirds because when they fly, their wings often make a humming sound. Their favorite flowers are red.

These birds have long slender bills that they stick into flowers to drink nectar. As they stick their bills deep into a flower, **pollen** is sprinkled onto their faces and backs.



Many hummingbirds weigh about the same as a penny! Since hummingbirds are so tiny, they have to eat many times each day. You can help! You can make a hummingbird feeder for your yard or patio.



Circle any of the pollinators below that you have seen in your neighborhood.

You can find out how to make this recycled hummingbird feeder at:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/kids/activities/documents/RecycledPlasticFeeders.pdf>

You will also find a recipe for making nectar to fill your feeder with.

We would like to see the feeder you make! Send a picture to:

stewardship@nacdnet.org



Why do we need Pollinators??

Most of the flowering plants all over the world are pollinated by animals.

Ways flowering plants help us:

1 They give us air to breathe.



2 They give us many foods to eat: peaches, nuts, pears, apples, pumpkins, avocados, bananas, blueberries, strawberries, chocolate, coffee, cherries and tomatoes.



3 They help give us dairy foods. Cows eat plants that are pollinated.



4 They give us many of the medicines we need when we are sick.



5 They help give us healthy soil and their roots help hold soil in place.



Word Parts

Make words by putting two word parts together.

pla	flower	pollin	brea	fo
the	-da-	so	nts	medi
ate	heal	cines	ro	ods
thy	ots	il	-iry-	ing

Write the words on these lines. HINT: All the words can be found on this page

dairy



