

## Activity 11: Plant-Animal Interactions

**Guiding Question:** How do specialized plant structures and traits affect the probability of successful reproduction in plants?

**Key Words:** *pollination, pollinator*

**Get Started:**

1. Do plants, like animals, have traits that increase their reproductive success? What are some of these traits?

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2. Read the introduction and Guiding Question to Activity 11, “Plant-Animal Interactions,” in your Student Book.

**Do the Activity:**

**Part A: Pollination Patterns**

1. Read the descriptions of the four plants in your Student Book. Complete the table based on what you read.

***Plant descriptions***

Plant	Color	Scent	Shape	Size
<b>Gardenia</b>				
<b>Agave</b>				
<b>Cardinal Flower</b>				
<b>Corpse Flower</b>				

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

2. Read the box in your Student Book titled “Function of Flowers” about the function of flowers in plant reproduction.

3. Read the descriptions of four kinds of animals that are important to plant pollinators found in your Student Book. As you read about these animals, think about which of them pollinates each of the four kinds of flowers in Step 1. Complete the table based on what you read.

***Animal descriptions***

<b>Animal</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Feed on</b>	<b>Sight</b>	<b>Smell</b>
<b>Hummingbird</b>				
<b>Bat</b>				
<b>Fly</b>				
<b>Moth</b>				

4. **When you return to class, you will complete steps 4-6.** Take turns passing around the Scratch-and-Sniff card, scratching off the first patch and taking note of the odor. Make a data table, in the space provided, to record how you matched each flower to a scent and pollinator. Continue to scratch each box and record your matches. You should only need to scratch the box lightly a couple of times. Do not scratch too hard.

*Data:*

5. Think about the pollinator that you matched with each flower. Now match the odor with the flower you think produces it.

6. Answer Analysis item 1 as instructed by your teacher.

Part B: Making Predictions

7. Read about the plants California Poppy and Big Bluestem, in your Student Book, and answer the following questions:

- How do you think the flowers are pollinated?
- What is your evidence and reasoning?

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

2. If you wanted to plant a garden that would attract butterflies and hummingbirds, what types of flowers would you want to plant and why?

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3. Bees are important pollinators for many wildflowers, but they are also important for pollination of fruit crops, like apples, melons, and cherries. Populations of bees are declining because of pesticides and diseases. Predict what will happen if bee populations continue to decline.

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