

Flowers

While you may have seen many flowers, this is a good time to take a closer look. Flowers have parts that enable them to live, grow and reproduce. Often the petals are brightly colored to attract insects. Sometimes insects, wind or rain assist with the process of pollination.



Pollination

Some flowers have male (stamen) and female (pistil) parts. Sometimes male parts are on one flower and female parts are on another flower. The stamens have pollen on top. The pollen needs to reach the bottom of the pistil where fertilization occurs to produce seeds. The seeds will enable the flower to reproduce (produce new plants/flowers in the next growing season). The stem and sepals provide support and protection for the flower.



Observations

How many of these parts can you find on a flower in your yard or neighborhood? Use a magnifying lens to take a closer look. Draw a picture of what you see.

