



Pollinators and Flowering Plants

Papier mâché pollinators

Age: 7-14

Topic: Art

Time: 1 hour (plus time for drying)



What should learners already know?

- Learners should have awareness of pollinator groupings.

What equipment will I need?

- Three balloons
- Newspaper
- PVA glue and water
- Paint brushes
- Paint
- Pipe cleaners



Did you know:

There are 270 different species of bee in the UK.

How can we show the learning?

- Challenge children by asking them to name the three main parts of a pollinator's body: the head, the thorax, and the abdomen.
- Ask children about other anatomical features that pollinators have in common. All pollinators have six legs, because they are all insects. The pollinator wing is made up of two parts: the forewing and the hindwing.
- Encourage children to think about how they would go about identifying the pollinator they have created if it was many times smaller and flying around outside. What features have they created that they think are important?

How will learners explore this?

1. Choose which pollinator to make. Depending on class size, you may want to make multiple pollinators. The below instructions are for creating a bee, but please feel free to modify according to class choice!
2. It could be useful to put up a labelled diagram of a bee in the background while children create its body.
3. Cut the newspapers into small strips and mix a ½ PVA glue and ½ water mixture together in bowls.
4. First, use 3 balloons to create the head, thorax, and abdomen. The head balloon should be ½ filled, with the thorax balloon ¾ filled, and the abdomen balloon fully filled (so that it is noticeably bigger than the other two). Papier mâché over the balloons (adding strips of newspaper and glue) to create each body segment in its appropriate size. Don't forget to give the abdomen a sting at the end, and the head compound eyes and mouthparts!
5. Now the wings can be made. Cut out some newspaper in the shapes of wings (including the forewing and the hindwing), and papier mâché over them to form the wings.
6. Now, make the antennae and legs out of pipe cleaners. Depending on the size of the rest of the model, you might want to papier mâché over the pipe cleaners to make the antennae and legs thicker and longer.
7. Leave everything to dry. Once each part has dried, it can be painted! Make sure to paint it in an anatomically correct fashion.
8. Once the paint has dried, it is time to assemble your pollinator! Glue each section together, along with the antennae and legs. Make sure you are using anatomical vocabulary throughout.
9. Display your pollinator! Why not hang it from the classroom ceiling, to look like it is in flight?



Learning through Landscapes

If you would like to develop your outdoor learning knowledge and skills, take a look at our range of training courses: ltl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training

© This activity sheet was created by the Learning through Landscapes Trust. Registered charity no. in England and Wales 803270 and in Scotland SC038890



Co-funded by the European Union



LUND UNIVERSITY



LUNDS KOMMUN



Naturskolan i Lund



SEO BirdLife



BirdLife MALTA