



# 8 POLLINATOR HABITAT

*Many delicious fruits and vegetables depend on pollinators to grow.* 3RD–5TH GRADE

*Learn about the important job of pollinators in helping our food grow.*



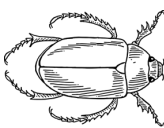


## 1. GET STARTED

Take a few moments to quietly look at the bees and other insects that you see flying around the garden. What do you think they are doing?

Those insects are pollinators and they have a special job to do in the garden. They carry pollen from one flower to another. This is called pollination, and many plants we eat depend on this process to grow. Bees are the most well known pollinator, but others include butterflies, beetles, wasps, and moths. So, let’s always say thank-you to the pollinators we see.

## 2. DIVE IN

- ▶ Walk carefully through the garden and observe pollinators. Remember that you are visiting their home, so you need to be respectful.
- ▶ What do you see them doing? As pollinators travel from one flower to another collecting nectar and pollen, they also transfer pollen from one flower to another. That pollen fertilizes the flower so it can create a new seed.
- ▶ Pollinators tend to have a favorite color. Do you notice which colors attract different pollinators?
- ▶ Pollinators seek out shapes that match the shapes of their bodies. They also prefer certain scents.
- ▶ Use the chart below to try and identify the pollinators you see. You can also use the pollinator color preference cards in the resource book to help search for pollinators based on their favorite color.

Pollinator	butterflies	bumblebees	beetles	moths	flies
					
<b>Preferred Color</b>	Orange, red, pink	Yellow, blue, purple	Green, white	Yellow, white, light pink	Dark red
<b>Preferred Scent</b>	no preference	sweet	fruity, spicy	sweet	stinky smell
<b>Preferred Shape</b>	landing pad, wide, deep	sturdy, wide	open, sturdy, cup shaped	open tubular shape	no preference

## 3. LEARN MORE

The FoodPrints lessons, [Pollinators at Work](#) and [Pollinators and Flowering Plants](#) have additional resources on pollination and activities you can do in your garden. Both lessons also have [instructional videos](#).

# FIELD TRIP MAP

parking lot



1 HUMAN SUNDIAL

picnic tables



2 GREENHOUSES



3 RAISED BEDS



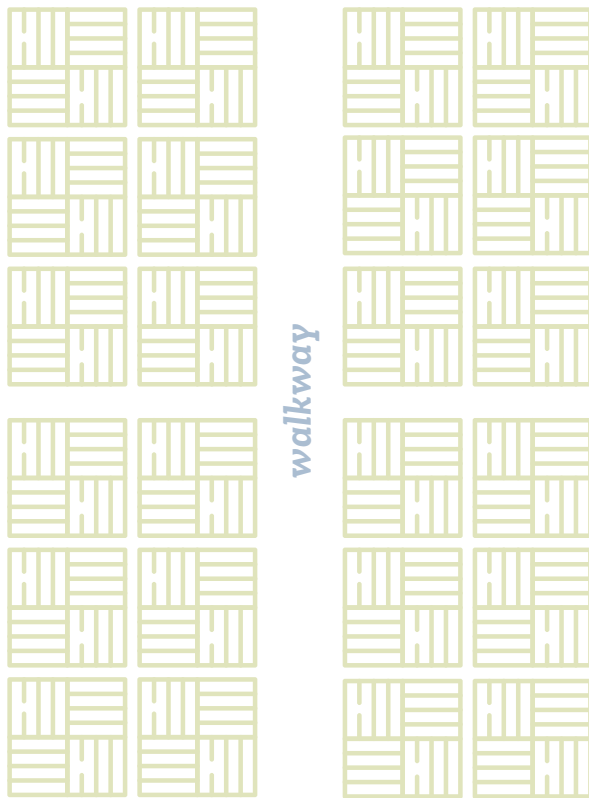
4 "APIARY" BEE HIVES



5 THREE TIER COMPOST SYSTEM



6 BLUEBIRD TRAIL STARTING POINT



7 BEE HOTEL



10 EDIBLE FLOWERS



9 SENSORY FOOTPATH



8 POLLINATOR HABITAT