

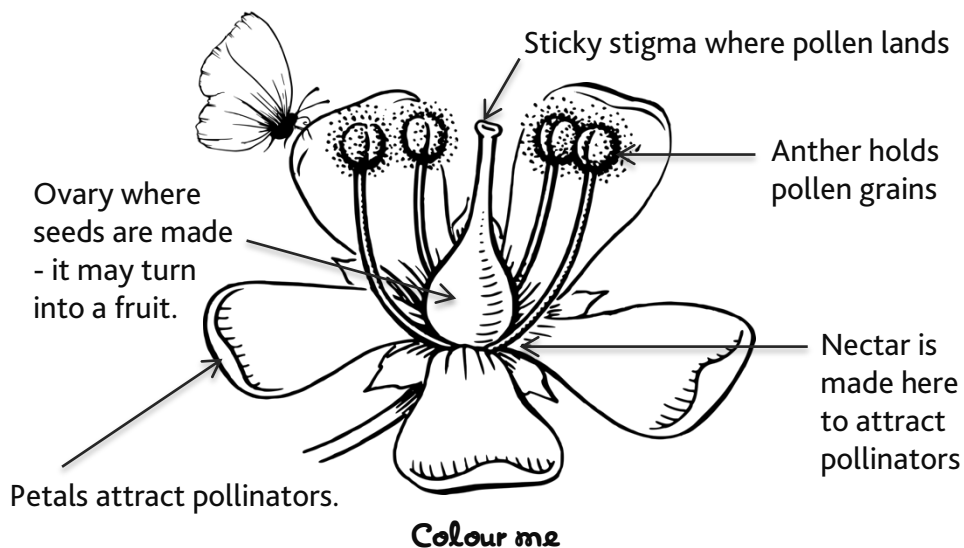


FABULOUS FLOWERS

Over 80% of all plant species are flowering plants. Flowers are the reproductive parts of a plant – their job is to make seeds that can grow into new plants. We hope you have fun working through these challenges to investigate and learn more about the flowers in our gardens.

CHALLENGE 1 – Take a closer look inside a flower...

Flowers come in lots of different shapes and sizes. Each flower has male parts (that hold the pollen) and female parts (where the pollen lands and seeds are made). Look carefully at a variety of different flowers to see if you can identify the parts in the diagram below. Some flowers have parts that are tricky to see – for example a sunflower is actually a collection of up to 4000 tiny flowers so you won't be able to see the male and female parts at all!



CHALLENGE 2 – How does pollination take place?

Pollination is the transfer of pollen from the male part of a flower (anther) to the female part of a flower (stigma). After pollination, a message is sent down to the ovary telling it to start making seeds. Some flowers rely on the wind to carry their pollen, but most flowering plants need animals (mostly insects) to pollinate them. Use the pictures below to find 10 words in the grid that describe how pollen can be moved from flower to flower.



Visit www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz and search 'Pollination' to discover how you can attract more pollinators into your garden.

A	E	B	C	D	W	E	F	G	B
H	F	I	J	B	I	R	D	S	U
K	L	L	M	N	N	O	P	Q	T
L	I	Z	A	R	D	S	R	S	T
T	E	U	V	W	X	H	Y	Z	E
A	S	B	C	B	A	T	S	D	R
E	F	J	K	E	L	O	M	N	F
O	P	G	Q	E	R	M	S	T	L
W	A	S	P	S	H	I	U	V	I
W	X	Z	A	D	E	F	S	X	E
B	C	Y	B	E	E	T	L	E	S

CHALLENGE 3 – How many different flowers can you find on your walk today?

The flowers we grow at the Botanic Gardens change throughout the seasons. Here are a few to look out for in the Potter Children's Garden.



Bird of paradise

Pūriri

Meadow flowers

Poppy



Hibiscus

Daffodil



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CHALLENGE 4 – Pretend you're a pollinator



- Find a spot to quietly watch bees collecting nectar and pollen. Look for 'pollen baskets' on their legs – bees feed pollen to their young.
- Bees can visit up to 40 flowers in 1 minute! How many can you visit in the same time?
- Touch the anther of a flower gently to see if you can rub some pollen on your finger.
- Smell all the flowers you find on your walk today. Which flower had your favourite scent?

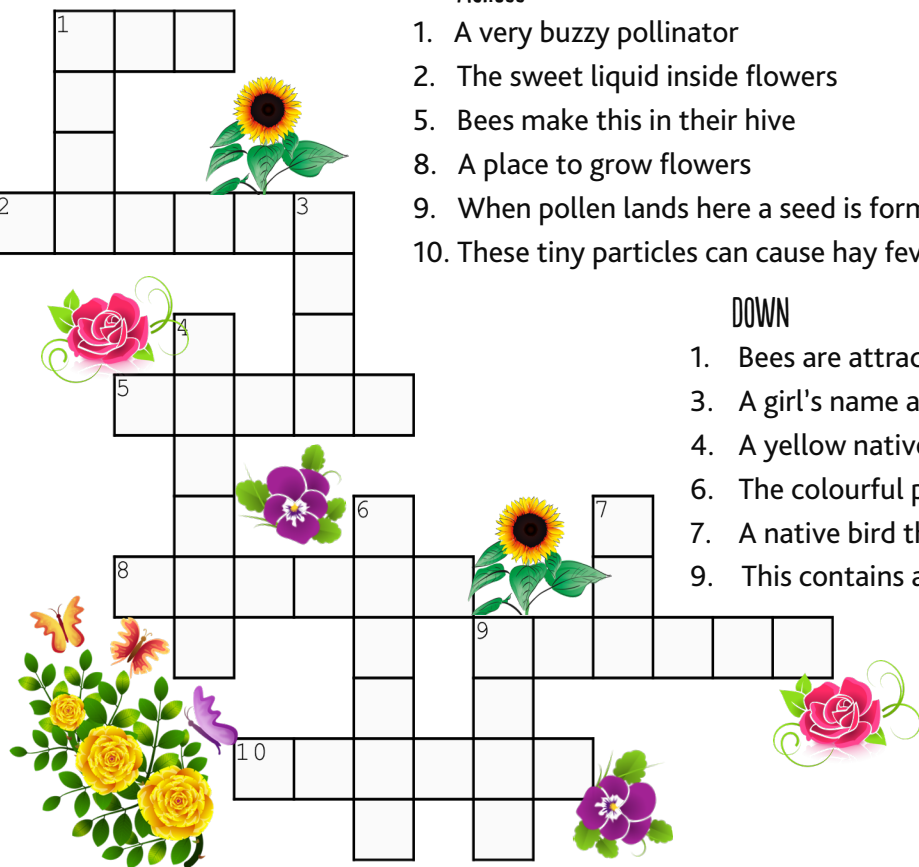
CHALLENGE 5 – Can you fill in this flowery crossword?

ACROSS

- A very buzzy pollinator
- The sweet liquid inside flowers
- Bees make this in their hive
- A place to grow flowers
- When pollen lands here a seed is formed
- These tiny particles can cause hay fever

DOWN

- Bees are attracted to this colour
- A girl's name and pretty flower
- A yellow native flower
- The colourful parts of a flower
- A native bird that drinks nectar
- This contains a baby plant



ANSWERS: Across - bee, nectar, honey, garden, stigma, pollen Down - blue - rose, rose, kowhai, petals, tui, seed

Did you know?

Bees are attracted to blue, white and yellow flowers.

Butterflies are attracted to red, yellow, orange and purple flowers.

Which colours will you use to colour the picture below?



How do flowers say hello?
What's up bud!



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