

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?

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
Gardenia				
Agave				
Cardinal Flower				
Corpse Flower				

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 might pollinate each of the four kinds of flowers you read about in Step 1. Complete the table based on what you read.

Animal descriptions

Animal	Description	Feed on	Sight	Smell
Hummingbird				
Bat				
Fly				
Moth				

4. Begin matching each pollinator with a flower. Think about what evidence from the text you are using to make each match. Record the matches in the data table shown.

Widowbird Experiment

PLANT	ANIMAL POLLINATOR	SCENT
Gardenia		
Agave		
Cardinal flower		
Corpse flower		

