

Worksheet: Pollination—Part TWO

Name: _____ Class/Section: _____

1. Look at the photographs of flowers below and decide what you think pollinates each flower, and list your reasons why.



Photo: Elisa Bracco

This flower has a very sweet smell.

What pollinates this?

List the reasons for your answer:



Photo: Josh Rosenbaum

This flower has no smell.

What pollinates this?

List the reasons for your answer:



Photo: Karol Miles

This flower has a sweet smell.

What pollinates this?

List the reasons for your answer:



Photo: bcanna

This flower has a sweet smell.

What pollinates this?

List the reasons for your answer:



Photo: Ben Tubby

This flower has a foul smell (to humans) to mimic excrement and dead animals.

What pollinates this?

List the reasons for your answer:



Photo: c rite thru

This plant has no noticeable smell.

What pollinates this?

List the reasons for your answer:

2. If we want to preserve plant diversity, why do we need to preserve pollinator diversity as well? Why can't we just preserve a few pollinators, like honeybees for example, to pollinate flowers?

Answer Sheet: Pollination—Part TWO

Name: _____ Class/Section: _____

1. Bumblebees

- i. Color: Blue, Violet, Ultraviolet markings
- ii. Scent: Sweet, to advertise nectar
- iii. Shape/design: Sturdy for heavy insects

2. Hummingbirds

- i. Color: Red, orange
- ii. Scent: No scent; hummingbirds can't smell
- iii. Shape/design: Tubular, protruding stamens and stigmas

3. Bats

- i. Color: White
- ii. Scent: Sweet to advertise nectar and pollen
- iii. Shape/design: Large, bowl-shaped, flowers high on ends of branches

4. Moths

- i. Color: White
- ii. Scent: Sweet to advertise nectar
- iii. Shape/design: Tubular, nectar often kept in spurs or tubes to accommodate moth mouthparts

5. Flies

- i. Color: Maroon, brown, dark red

- ii. Scent: Foul (to humans), to mimic excrement and dead animals
- iii. Shape/design: Varied

6. Wind

- i. Color: Green or brown
- ii. Scent: No scent
- iii. Shape/design: Petals small or absent, dangling stamens and protruding carpals, great quantities of sticky and very light pollen

7. If we want to preserve plant diversity, why do we need to preserve pollinator diversity as well? Why can't we just preserve a few pollinators, like honeybees for example, to pollinate flowers?

Answer: Flowers and pollinators are specifically suited to each other. No flower attracts every single pollinator, and no pollinator is adapted to pollinate every flower. To preserve plant diversity, it is essential to preserve both plant and pollinator diversity. Losing plant diversity would harm pollinator diversity and vice versa.