

Garden Creatures & Pollination

LEARNING RECAP

Pollinators are essential because they move pollen between flowers which helps plants grow, produce food, and keep ecosystems healthy!

- **Pollinators help nature and food grow:** Bees, butterflies, birds, bats, and beetles carry pollen between flowers, helping plants produce fruits, vegetables, and seeds.
- **We can protect pollinators:** Plant flowers, provide shelter and water, and avoid harming insects to keep gardens and the environment healthy.

AT HOME ACTIVITIES

Pollinator Garden Challenge:

- Plant pollinator-friendly flowers (sunflowers, marigolds, or lavender) in a pot or garden space.
- Observe daily and record any insects or pollinators that visit your flowers.

Pollinator Observation Journal:

- Spend 10–15 minutes outside each day watching for bees, butterflies, or other pollinators.
- Draw what you see and write one sentence about what the pollinator is doing.

Pollinator Craft & Story Challenge:

- Create a bee, butterfly, or hummingbird using paper, cardboard, or recycled materials.
- Write a short story about your pollinator's day and how it helps plants grow.

FUN FACTS

- Bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds help grow one out of every three bites of food we eat, including fruits, veggies, and chocolate.
- Butterflies taste with their feet to see if they are good food for their babies.
- Honey bees “waggle dance” to tell friends where the best flowers are.
- Bees can feel flower electricity with tiny hairs on their bodies help bees know which flowers have lots of pollen.
- About 70% of native bees don't live in hive, they make tunnels in the soil instead.