Pollination and Pollinators

Activities and resources for kids

Bee Inspired!

www.bee-positive.net

Pollination

Pollination is the transfer of pollen from the male anther of a flower to the female stigma of a flower.

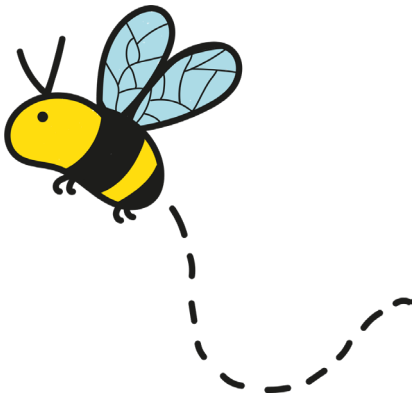
Plants need help to transfer the pollen from the anther to the stigma, in order to reproduce. This process of transferring the pollen is called pollination and it is done primarily by bees.

Thus plants and pollinators have a symbiotic relationship where they help each other.

It is estimated that if we had to do the work of pollination ourselves it would cost between £182 billion and £448 billion a year but bees do it for free! Which is part of what makes bees so important to life on earth.

Bumble bees and honey bees are the most important pollinators but other animals help too including:

- Butterflies and Moths
- Wasps and Beetles
- Ladybirds and other insects
- Birds
- Bats



Even monkeys, lemurs, rodents and lizards have been known to pollinate. Pollen is sticky stuff!

Parts of a Plant

Activites notes and futher resources.

You can learn about the parts of a plant and the sexual reproduction of plants from the diagram of a flower below.

Test your knowledge by labelling the blank diagram of a flower but it's much more fun if you can grow and observe your own plants!

When you take part in our Planting Seeds of Hope activity you can observe the lifecycle of a plant from seed to flower and dissect some flowers to find their relevant parts e.g. petal, anther, pollen.

For a really successful dissection we recommend lilies, which have very pronounced and visible reproductive parts (see flower dissection video below)

You could explore the relationship between plants and pollinators by examining different flowers and their different methods of attracting pollinators e.g. colour, scent and nectar.

BBC bitesize

What are the requirements for plant growth?

Why are plants important?

How do flowering plants reproduce?

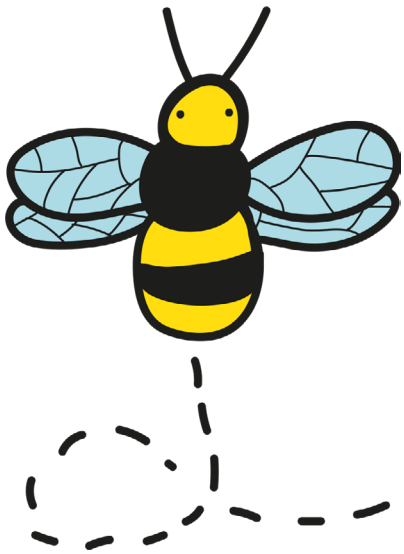
Video resources

Flower dissection

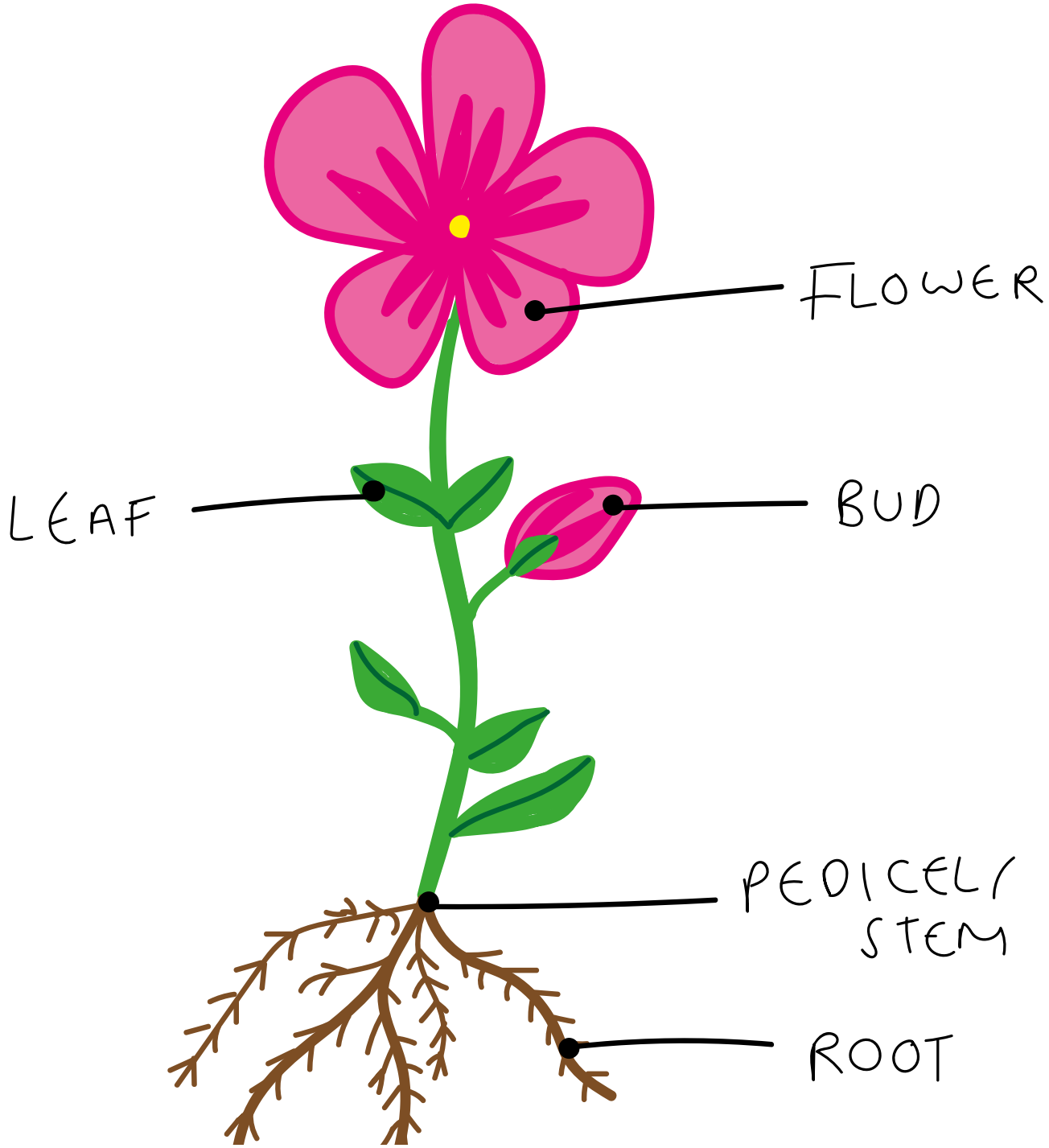
Dissection of a Hibiscus flower

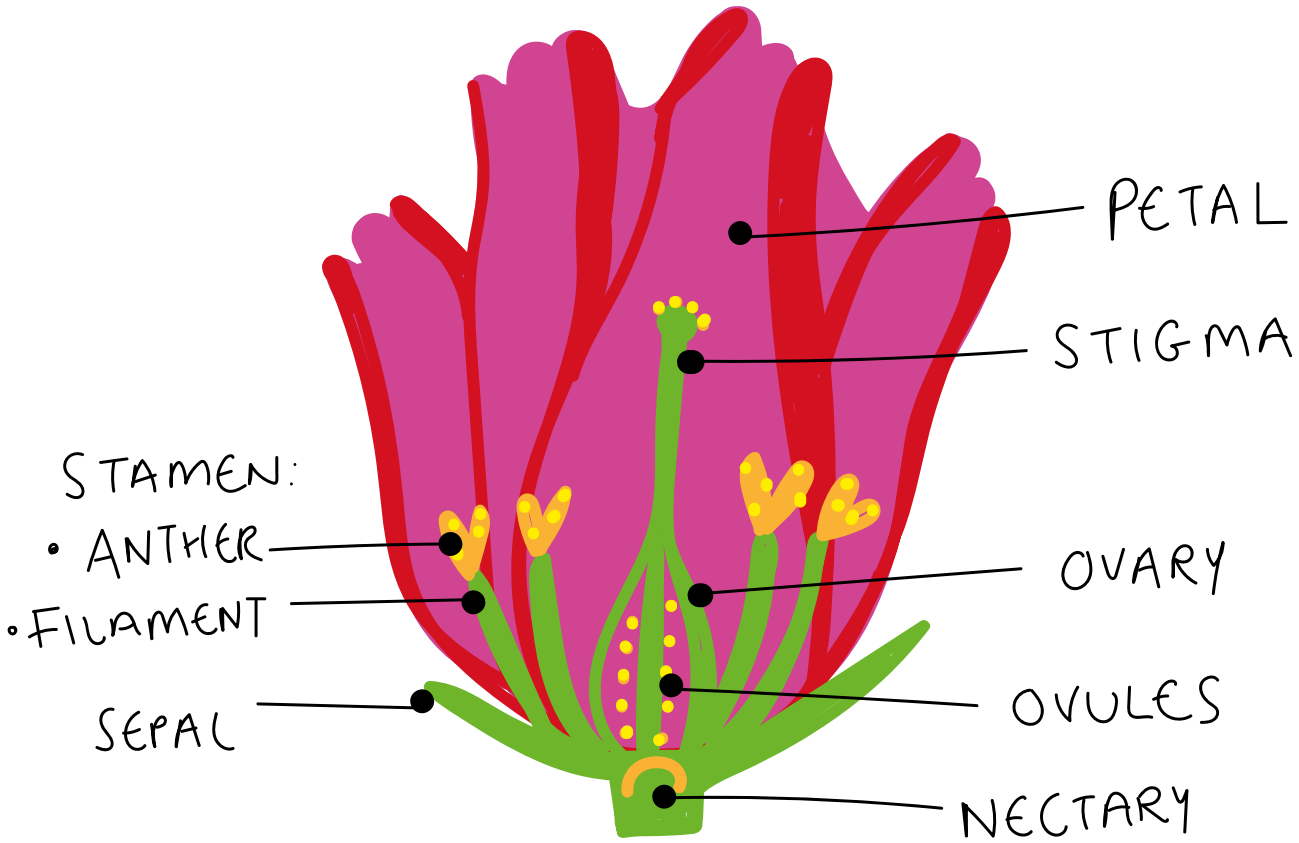
Time lapse of Sunflower from seed

Timelapse of Pumpkin from seed



Parts of a Plant




PETAL
STIGMA
STAMEN:
• ANTHER
• FILAMENT
OVARY
SEPAL
OVULES
NECTARY