

Pollinator Activities - 4th Grade

Subject	Lessons/Activities	Handouts/Videos	Lesson Objective	Project Tasks
Science - outdoor and physical activities	Pollinator Habitats		Students will focus on spatial location and habitat of their pollinator and/or vegetable garden (next to school building in beds, further away, near water source (creek, river, pond), is it near other nature features (woods, prairie, wetland)	1. Students will observe and report the specific habitat of the area of study and surrounding ecology for pollinator habitat.
Science - Technology	Pollinator Needs	milkweed handout	Students will understand that habitats satisfy animal needs. People and animals (specifically pollinators) have similar basic needs, including: shelter, food, water and warmth. Students will explore the garden to see how it is meeting the habitat needs of pollinators. Students will focus on which plant for Monarch Butterflies that is a critical species for survival.	2. Students will observe and categorize the types and colors of plants being used by pollinators (butterflies, bees, wasps, bats.)
Science - Engineering	Pollinator Planning		Students will focus on garden design or how plants are engineered to be strong or need support to bear the weight of vegetables and fruit. Students will sketch how plants can depend on other plants for structure. Students can also observe structures that are made in gardens naturally by insects (spider webs, etc) or other pests and how to make the garden more appealing to beneficial insects while discouraging other pests.	1. Draw Garden Layout 2. Identify structures that support plants or plants that support other plants
Science - Art	Pollinator Relationships		Student will learn spatial orientation and how species of flowering plants attract certain pollinators by color. As students explore the garden they will identify which insects are beneficial or how certain pests choose certain plants, and how color and camouflage plays a role in survival.	1. Draw/color/paint a flower/ plant/vegetable 2. Identify and draw a beneficial insect or pest.
Science - Math	Pollinator to Plant Function		Students will learn habitat function to explore the ratio's of successful pollinators, vegetable plants, insect pests, healthy vs. damaged plants. Students can work in teams to categorize and count pollinators, plants, insect pests, and any vegetables or fruit being produced.	1. Square off a 3ftx3ft section of garden - categorize by counting all plants that are healthy and all plants that show insect damage or withering. 2. Count all pollinators and insects found for a ratio of each to the number of plants
Language Arts - Reading	Pollinator Understanding	Web links Video	Web : https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/Monarch_Butterfly/ Video: Plight of the Monarch https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zZKbZdLtBoM How Gardeners Can Help Pollinators. https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/plantsanimals/pollinate/gardeners/	1. Write the lifecycle of the Monarch Butterfly (5 stages) 2. List the 7 ways to make a garden a haven for native pollinators
Language Arts - Research	Pollinator Challenge	Pollinator Trivia	Students will work in teams to find all of the pollinator facts and trivia using their computers to figure out the answers.	1. Complete Pollinator Trivia Challenge
Language Arts - Writing/ Storytelling	Pretend Pollinator		Use knowledge of local pollinators including their role in the garden, habitat and eating habits, to create an imaginary pollinator. Write a story about the creature.	1. 1-2 page story and picture drawing of imaginary species