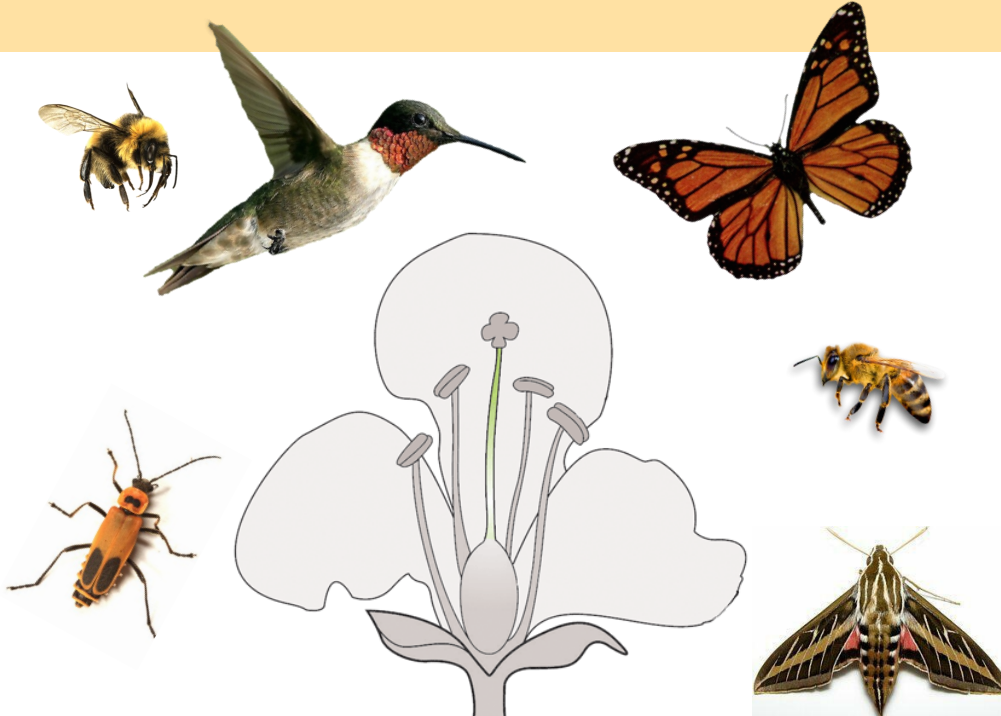


Circle your favorite pollinator to help pollinate your classmates' flowers!



Become a Scientist! Download the App!



Kankakee County SWCD

Do you want to learn more about native plants, pollinators, soil, water, and local conservation?

Visit our website! www.kankakeecountyswcd.org

Give us a call! (815) 937-8940 ext. 3

Send an email! Emilie.Janes@il.nacdnet.net



NATIVE PLANTS & *Pollinators*

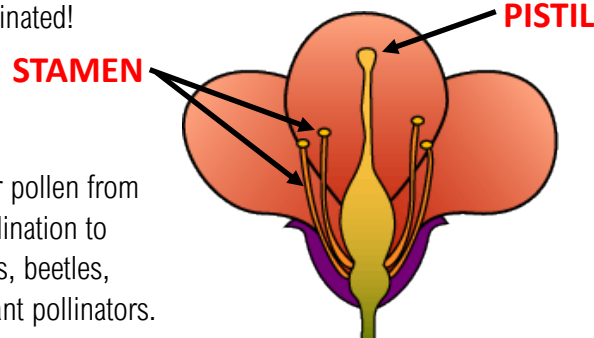


WHAT IS...

Pollination?



Pollination is the transfer of pollen from the **stamen** to the **pistil** of the flower. Pollination is an important part of the life cycle of plants. Plants cannot produce seeds unless they are pollinated!



Pollinators are animals that transfer pollen from one flower to another, allowing pollination to occur. Butterflies, bees, moths, flies, beetles, birds, and even bats are all important pollinators.

What are native plants?

Native Plants are plants that have lived in an area for a very long time and grow naturally in the environment. Native plants provide food and shelter for insects, birds, and other wildlife. Native plants are the top choice for our pollinators and other animals that live here!

A **non-native plant** is a plant that was brought to a location from somewhere else. Sometimes these plants spread quickly and can damage the environment, taking away valuable resources like sunlight, water, and space from native plants. These bad plants are called **invasive plants**. Bush honeysuckle is an invasive species in Kankakee and has spread throughout the forests.

A few of the many native plants found in Kankakee County:



Purple
Coneflower



Swamp Milkweed



Wild Bergamot



Black-eyed Susan

Match the insect or bird with its favorite native plant!

Many animals rely on native plants for food and shelter. Draw lines to match the insect or bird (below) with its favorite native plant (above)!



Wild Bergamot



Milkweed



Blazing Star



Purple Coneflower



Honey bee



Goldfinch



Monarch butterfly



Ruby-throated hummingbird

Pollinators and Agriculture

Did you know...

About 75% of the world's flowering plants and about 35% of the world's food crops depend on pollinators like bees, butterflies, moths, birds, bats, beetles, and other insects!

One out of every three bites of food we eat exists because of pollinators.

The numbers of monarchs and bees are declining, but you can help by planting **native plants** to supply them with food and habitat!



About how many flowers must a honey bee colony visit to make 1 pound of honey?

MY GUESS: _____ flowers

ANSWER: _____ flowers

What is one other food that pollinators help make? _____