



# Pollen Transfer

## **Audience**

Activity designed for ages 4 and up.

## **Goal**

Student will learn about the process of pollination and about animals that are considered pollinators.

## **Objective**

- To practice fine motor skills.
- To exercise their counting abilities.
- To recognize the transfer of pollen from a pollinator to another plant.

## **Conservation Message**

In Oklahoma, we have several types of agricultural crops that need to be pollinated. One major pollinator in our state is the honeybee and that is why it was named the state insect in 1992. This pollinator is critical to crop pollination and plays a vital role in varied food supply. If you see a bee, keep your distance and don't swat at them. If you have a hive that is too close to your house, call the local wildlife office to help you relocate it!

## **Background Information**

Did you know that Oklahoma's state insect is the Honeybee? The honeybee was named the state insect in 1992 because of its important job, pollination. Pollination is the process of when pollen from one flower gets transferred or moved to another flower. The animals that carry out this process are called pollinators. One important pollinator is the honeybee. Honeybees pollinate wildflowers and agricultural crops and make delish, sweet honey! Bees will travel from one flower and burrow into the middle of the flower to drink the nectar. When it does, the bee collects pollen on its body and legs and carries it to another flower. The process of pollination allows new flowers to bloom and blossom. The leftover pollen and collected nectar are taken back to their hive and placed in honeycombs to make honey.

## Materials Needed

- Flower Page (provided)
- Pom poms
- Tweezers/tongs
- Crayons or Markers
- Cardstock
- Tape
- 6 Cups

## Length of Activity

30 minutes

## Procedure

- Print out the Flower Page and color it!
- Next we will make our honeycomb. On a flat surface Group together 6 cups in any shape you wish.
- Place your flower on the flat surface near your honeycomb cups.
- Pull out a handful of pom poms and put them into the center of the flower, this is your pollen.
- Using the tweezers, buzz over to the flower and pick the pom poms up one by one. Buzz back over to your honeycomb and place the pollen into the cups.
- Count how many pom poms you can put in the honeycomb!



