

## POLLINATION DEMONSTRATION

- ▶ See “**Make a 3D Plant Model**” for introductory activity.

### Sources:

- Play and Find Out About Nature, by Janice VanCleave
- Knee High Nature: Summer in Alberta, by Dianne Hayley and Pat Wishart

### Curriculum connections:

Science and Technology – Life Systems (Grade 3)

#### Specific Expectations:

- Use appropriate vocabulary in describing their investigations, explorations, and observations (e.g., *stem, pistil, stamen, flower*).
- Describe, using their observations, the changes that plants undergo in a complete life cycle (e.g., from the germination of a seed to the production of flowers or fruit).

### Basic Description:

This is a short extension that makes use of the students’ 3-D plant models. In this activity, students are introduced to the terms pollen and pollination. This can either be done as a demonstration by the teacher or as a class craft activity and exploration.

### Materials:

- Fine-ground yellow corn meal
- 3-D plant model

For constructing a Fuzzy Bee

- Black pipe cleaners
- White pipe cleaners
- Yellow pom-poms
- Wax paper

### Time Allotment:

- 30 minutes if done as a class craft activity
- 5 minutes if done as a teacher demonstration

### Activity:

**Preparation:** Make one ‘Pollinator’ (Fuzzy Bee) to be used in the demonstration. See below for instructions.

#### Class Activity

1. Gather all necessary materials for constructing Fuzzy Bees with your class.
2. Have each student make one Fuzzy Bee.

#### How to Make a Fuzzy Bee

1. Wind a black pipe cleaner around a 2.5 cm yellow pom-pom.
2. Use a white pipe cleaner to shape wings into a figure eight.
3. Glue wax paper on the wings. Trim off any excess from around the edges of the pipe cleaner.
4. Attach the wings to the body with a small piece of white pipe cleaner.
5. Using black pipe cleaners, make the feet for the bee.
6. You now have a pollinator to be used in your demonstration of pollination!

**Procedure:**

1. Introduce the terms pollen and pollination. Sprinkle fine-ground yellow corn meal on the stamens of your flower. The corn meal represents pollen.
2. Using the Fuzzy Bee, touch the bee's feet and legs to the top of the pollen-covered stamens.
3. Look for pollen that has stuck to the bee's feet.
4. Demonstrate that when the bee flies to the next flower, some of the pollen is dropped onto that flower's pistil. This is called pollination and it needs to happen for a flower to make a seed (this leads nicely into a lesson on life cycle).

**Resources:**

- Starting with Science: Plants by The Ontario Science Centre, Kids Can Press Ltd., 1994.
- Plants: Mind-Boggling Experiments You Can Turn Into Science Fair Projects by Janice VanCleave, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1997.
- Science Is... by Susan V. Bosak, Scholastic Canada Ltd. and The Communication Project, 2000.
- Play and Find Out About Nature: Easy Experiments for Young Children by Janice VanCleave, John Wiley & Sons, 1997.
- The Kids Canadian Plant Book by Pamela Hickman, Kids Can Press Ltd., 1996.



Canadian Botanical  
Conservation Network  
le réseau canadien pour  
la conservation de la flore



**ROYAL  
BOTANICAL  
GARDENS**

```
ERROR: undefined
OFFENDING COMMAND: ~
STACK:
```