

# Pollination Station

**Objective:** Students will understand what pollination is. Why bees pollinate, and how they pollinate flowers and other plants.

**Teacher Preparation/Materials:** A copy of Billy B's song, "Yo, I'm a Flower", copy of the lyrics to "Yo, I'm a flower, CD player, diagram of a flower with its parts, diagram of pollination process, pictures of bees pollinating flowers, pipe cleaners, and at least two live flowers with prominent stamen, and stigma (such as daffodils).

## Script:

- I. Introduction: Ask students if they know what pollination is.
  - A. It is the transfer of pollen from the male part of the flower (stamen) to the female part of the flower (pistil: style and stigma). This results in the fertilization of the plant and later a formation of a seed.
  
- II. How do Bees pollinate?
  - A. Play the "Yo, I'm a flower", song and have kids follow along with the lyrics.
    1. Ask students how bees help with the pollination process.
  - B. Show them the diagram of what the bee does, and how the pollen is transferred from flower to flower. (use picture diagrams)
    1. Insect receives pollen from the stamen of the first flower. The pollen sticks to the hair on the bee's body and legs.
    2. The bee flies to another flower, where the pollen falls off onto the stigma to complete the fertilization.
  - C. Have the kids perform their own pollination activity.
    1. Show kids the parts of the real flowers you have.
    2. Bring out pipe cleaners and explain that they represent the bees.
    3. Show them how to use the pipe cleaner to pick up pollen from the stamen.
    4. Then take the pipe cleaner to another flower and show how the pollen would be deposited on the stigma to complete fertilization.
  
- III. Why do Bees need to pollinate?
  - A. Ask kids why bees need to pollinate.
  - B. Give reasons for the importance of pollination.
    1. Bees go to flowers for nectar for their food supply.
    2. They need to pollinate to keep the number of flowers high so they can have lots of nectar for food.
    3. Bees need the nectar from the flowers to eat during the winter when all the flowers are dead and they can not survive out in the cold.
    4. It is very important for the survival of most plants and animals that insects like bees keep up the pollination process.
  
- IV. Conclusion: That is a quick overview on the process of bee pollination.

# Yo, I'm a Flower



By: Billy B.

Yo I'm a flower, here comes the bee  
She wants to get, nectar from me  
My dusty pollen, she will also carry  
It will stick to her body,  
Because her body is hairy  
To the other flowers, that bee will go  
With my pollen, which will quickly grow  
Into the middle of that flower,  
Then the flower makes seeds  
The seeds will sprout, into plants with leaves

## CHORUS

Plants have flowers  
Flowers make seeds  
It's the reproductive power,  
Every plant needs

Around the seed the fruit might grow  
Like an apple or tomato  
Every fruit, grew from a flower  
On a stem, using solar power  
Every leaf, makes sugar from the sun  
It sweetens the nectar,  
So the bees need some  
Then bees make honey, food for the hive  
So both the flowers and bees,  
Work together to survive.