

*Today, your challenge is to create pollinators and flowers!
We will use your creations to play a game.*

Step 1: Pollinator and Flower Art

Divide students into two groups.

- Butterflies and bees are pollinators (the helpers)
- Flowers hold nectar and pollen (which serve as food and help the flowers grow)

Encourage each group to think about their role as you explain the activity.

“In nature, butterflies and bees serve as pollinators. Flowers hold the food—nectar and pollen. The butterflies and bees collect food from the flowers and distribute it to other flowers, helping them to grow.”

Let's get started!

- **Group 1: Butterflies**
 - Create butterflies by decorating pre-cut butterfly shapes or cutting their own from construction paper. Add antennae with pipe cleaners.
- **Group 2: Bumblebees**
 - Make bumblebees by coloring bee outlines or wrapping yellow and black paper around a small tube.
- **Group 3: Flowers**
 - Craft flowers by drawing and cutting flower shapes, gluing them onto popsicle sticks, or using pre-made templates.



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Step 2: Pollination Game

Pollination Song (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ndIncz9Wa6I>)

- Position the students who created flowers around the room. Give each student a collection of small pieces of colorful paper, cotton balls, or pom-poms, (representing pollen).
- When the music starts, the children playing the pollinators (who created the butterflies and bees) “visit” a flower, touch their butterfly or bee to the “pollen,” and then move to another flower to transfer the pollen.
 - To simulate nectar collection, give the pollinators a small cup to collect pretend “nectar” (colored paper bits or small pom-poms) as they visit flowers.
 - Encourage students to make exchanges of pollen at each visit.

Instructors can create constraints or ask the students to develop constraints to keep them engaged. For example:

- Encourage a polite salutation-like verbal exchange: “Hello, my name is Buzzy the Bee! Would you please share some pollen?” (social skills)
- Encourage learners to reinforce verbally that the plants are helping the pollinators and the pollinators are helping the plants!
- When the music stops, students can count how much pollen each flower and pollinator has (counting and math applications).
- Flowers give two pollen at each visit and pollinators give one, etc.
- Pollen colors can match flower colors (patterns, colors, etc.).

The simulation game can end at any time, per student interest level or timing.

