

Pollinator Garden Lesson Plan

ASLA Career Discovery

For teachers and informal educators, grades K-5.

Overview & Narrative

In this unit, elementary students (K–5) become environmental explorers, naturalists, game-makers, artists, and landscape architects as they engage with the natural environment through books, expert knowledge, and hands-on research. Students will investigate pollinators and pollinator plants, exploring their vital role in ecosystems and their impact on the world.

The unit will culminate in a public showcase of student learning, featuring artistic and scientific deliverables such as collages, charts, illustrations, models, and interactive games. A key component of this project is a pollinator garden mural, designed collaboratively and displayed near the schoolyard or library, illustrating the relationships between plants, pollinators, and their surrounding ecosystems. This multi-week project follows the core processes of observation, research, design, and construction.

Big Goals

- Understand the role of pollinators in the environment.
- Learn about pollinator plants and their significance.
- Design a pollinator garden as a space for play.
- Inspire a love of nature and plants.
- Encourage creativity through art, design, and hands-on creation.

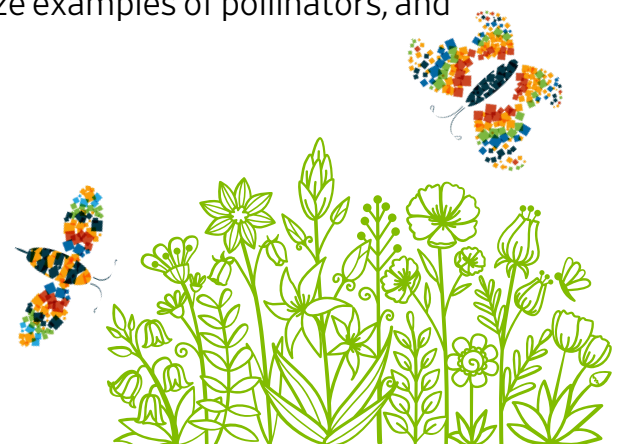
Objective

Students will understand what pollinators are, recognize examples of pollinators, and learn their role in helping plants and flowers grow.



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Essential Questions

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Kindergarten:

- What are pollinators, and how do they help plants grow?
- What colors, shapes, and patterns do pollinators like best?

1st Grade:

- What do pollinators need to survive, and how do they find food?
- How can we tell the story of a pollinator through pictures and art?

2nd Grade:

- What kinds of plants do pollinators love, and why?
- How are pollinators and plants connected to other living things around them?

3rd Grade:

- What happens if there aren't enough pollinators in an environment?
- How can we design a space that makes pollinators feel safe and welcome?

4th Grade:

- How do different pollinators, like bees, butterflies, and birds, help the environment in unique ways?
- What can we learn from nature to create art and designs that help pollinators?

5th Grade:

- What can we do to protect pollinators in our community and beyond?
- How can we use design and creative projects to teach others about pollinators?



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