



LOOK AT A BUNCH OF FLOWERS.

You have birds and bees (and butterflies) to thank for them.

THE BIRDS & THE BEES



FLOWERS are pollinated in different ways.

BIRD-POLLINATED FLOWERS:

- have brightly coloured petals; typically red and orange

• HAVE NO SCENT BECAUSE BIRDS HAVE A POOR SENSE OF SMELL

- produce large quantities of nectar to sustain the bird for longer
- are tubular or trumpet-shaped so that pollen sticks to the birds beaks when they visit the flowers in their search for nectar

- have long stamens and stigmas so that they make contact with the beaks of birds



BEE-POLLINATED FLOWERS:

- have a sweet scent and are brightly coloured; typically blue, yellow, white and purple

• PRODUCE SWEET NECTAR

- produce small amounts of sticky pollen that sticks to the insect's body

- have stamens and a stigma situated inside the flower; the pollen on the insect's body rubs off onto the stigma

- sometimes have patterns on their petals called nectar guides that lead the visiting insect straight down to the nectar gland with wide open shapes for easy landing



BUTTERFLIES:

Butterflies are not as efficient as bees but do help in flower pollination.

They prefer brightly coloured, fragrant flowers and they sip nectar with their long, tube-like tongue (proboscis). The pollen sticks to them and they transfer it

WHAT HAPPENS?

Bees use their legs and body hairs to collect and transfer pollen.

Bees are better pollinators as they deliberately collect pollen to take back to the hive.

Birds use their beaks and tongues but fly further and spread the pollen more.



STOP, SCAN & STUDY!



Scan the QR code & get subject study assistance!

