

Program Summary

As students enjoy the beauty and fragrance of flowers throughout VanDusen, they investigate the parts of a flower, their role in pollination, and how pollination fits in the life cycle of flowering plants. Students will search for pollinators in action, explore the interdependence between pollinators and plants, and their role in food production. A visit to the beehives is included.

Learning Objectives

Students will:

1. Explore the garden searching for a variety of flowers and pollinators and observe them in action
2. Learn about the parts of a flower and how each part is involved in the pollination process
3. Link pollination to the life cycle of flowering plants
4. Begin to understand the interdependence between pollinators and plants and how they are linked to the everyday needs of human beings

Curriculum Connections

Grade 1

BIG IDEAS

- Living things have features and behaviours that help them survive in their environment

CURICULAR COMPETENCIES

- Demonstrate curiosity and a sense of wonder about the world
- Make simple predictions about familiar objects and events
- Experience and interpret the local environment
- Compare observations with predictions through discussion
- Transfer and apply learning to new situations

CONTENT

- Classify living and non-living things
- Names of local plants and animals
- Structural features of living things in the local environment
- Behavioral adaptations of animals in the local environment

Grade 2

BIG IDEAS

- Living things have life cycles adapted to their environment

CURICULAR COMPETENCIES

- Demonstrate curiosity and a sense of wonder about the world
- Make simple predictions about familiar objects and events
- Compare observations with predictions through discussion
- Identify simple patterns and connections
- Transfer and apply learning to new situations

CONTENT

- Metamorphic and non-metamorphic life cycles of different organisms
 - Similarities and differences between offspring and parent
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Grade 3

BIG IDEAS

- Living things are diverse, can be grouped, and interact in their ecosystems

CURICULAR COMPETENCIES

- Demonstrate curiosity and a sense of wonder about the world
- Make predictions based on prior knowledge
- Make observations about living and non-living things in the local environment
- Experience and interpret the local environment
- Identify some simple environmental implications of their and others' actions

CONTENT

- Biodiversity in the local environment
 - Energy is needed for life
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Grade 4

BIG IDEAS

- All living things sense and respond to their environment

CURICULAR COMPETENCIES

- Demonstrate curiosity and a sense of wonder about the world
- Make predictions based on prior knowledge
- Make observations about living and non-living things in the local environment
- Experience and interpret the local environment
- Identify some environmental implications of their and others' actions

CONTENT

- Animals and plants have different ways of sensing and responding to their environment