



Children understand the importance of habitat for pollinators and take action to provide it.

Pollinator Places 2



Keywords recall • outdoors • prompting • planting

- 1 This activity switches focus from what flowers need to what pollinators need. Get the children to imagine that they are pollinators like the ones in the story and that they are going to do a tour of the school grounds to see where they can find food. Before going out, they remind you what they need: flowers for nectar and pollen.
- 2 Do your tour. You will probably find a great lack of places where pollinators can thrive. This is the sad reality in our country and increasingly in the rest of the world, with so much habitat loss. The good news, however, is that it's easy to create places for pollinators. Discuss what you could do and where to do it. Get the children eager to make your school pollinator-friendly.
- 3 The idea is to find a sunlit patch of soil and plant it with flowering plants. Not all flowers may be suitable. Most 'domestic' flowers are cultivated to grow large, showy blooms but these often lack nectar or scent to attract animals. See *Pollinator Plants* in the **Resource File** for ideas what to plant. Plan with the children what and where to plant. Take action.
- 4 If you do not have a soil patch, create a mosaic of planters (see *Pollinator Station* in the **Resource File** for an idea). Involve the children in the planning and creation by prompting ideas, also when choosing the plants. Start planting.
- 5 The plants may at first look awkward until they settle in their new place. The children take turns watering and enjoying watching plants grow. The excitement should mount when flowers begin to open and pollinators start turning up.
- 6 Discuss whether anyone can come in to water the plants over summer – if not, see if you can have a basic drip irrigation system installed. Commitment is part of the education behind saving our planet, so make sure to involve the children.

Use the Dinja Waħda Notice Board and tell the school about what you're doing.

Send photos of

- ☐ children looking for suitable pollinator habitat ☐ the completed pollinator station.
- ☐ children planning/planting pollinator station

