

Name: _____

WHAT IS A POLLINATOR?

In the **life cycle** of most plants, **seeds** are made. Seeds are how a plant makes more plants. You can find seeds inside of fruit and flowers.



Have you ever seen a seed?

Seeded plants like these apples, flower, and strawberries also produce **pollen**.



Pollen is a powdery substance that comes from flowers. Pollen plays a very important role in producing more plants.

Pollen needs to move from plant to plant. This is called **pollination**.



WHAT IS A POLLINATOR?

How does pollen move?

Some pollen is **light** and easily blown by the wind. Plants with light pollen are called **wind-pollinated plants**.



Some pollen is **heavy and sticky**. This pollen moves from flower to flower by sticking to the **animals'** bodies. Plants with heavy, sticky pollen are called **animal-pollinated plants**.



WHAT IS A POLLINATOR?

What animals are moving pollen from flower to flower?

Hummingbirds, bats, and insects such as bees, flies, and butterflies are just a few. An animal that pollinates a flower is called a **pollinator**.



Pollen the traveling backpack!

Did you know that pollinators do not move pollen on purpose. Pollinators eat **nectar** from flowers. Nectar is a sugary liquid treat that pollinators love to eat! Flowers offer the sweet reward of nectar to encourage animals to come close enough to touch the pollen inside the flower. The pollen then sticks to the pollinator's body and travels with the pollinator to the next flower it visits.

