

Make a Model of Pollination

MATERIALS:

- Cupcake liners or coffee filters
- Crayons or markers
- Scissors
- Construction paper
- Bottle caps (2)
- Drink mix powder
- Pom-pom, cotton ball, cotton swab, or wrapped pipe cleaner
- Masking tape or glue

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Step 1.** Make 2 flowers. The cupcake liner will be the petals. Color your cupcake liner. Cut slits to make petals.
- Step 2.** Tape or glue each cupcake liner to a piece of construction paper. Draw a stem and leaves for each flower.
- Step 3.** Tape or glue a bottle cap in the center of each flower. Put drink mix powder (pollen) in one of the bottle caps.
- Step 4.** Have the bee (pom-pom) visit the flower. Pollen will stick to the bee.
- Step 5.** Move the bee to the other flower. Some pollen will stick to this flower. The flower has been pollinated! Over time a fruit with seeds will grow.



THE SCIENCE BEHIND IT:

Pollination is the first step in making new flowers. **Pollinators** fly from flower to flower to collect food in the form of nectar or pollen. Some common **pollinators** are insects and hummingbirds. **Pollen** is small and sticks to the **pollinator** that is feeding at the flower. Then, when the **pollinator** flies to the next flower, it leaves behind the **pollen** from other flowers. This is how **pollination** happens!

