

Flowering Plants

Grade-Level Expectations

This instructional task addresses content related to the following science grade-level expectations:

SI-E-A2 Predict and anticipate possible outcomes (GLE 4)

LS-E-A3 Describe how plant structures enable the plant to meet its basic needs (GLE 37)

	Objectives
Task	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describe the functions of flowers - Describe phenomena that affect the flowering of plants and predict the resulting consequences
<u>Sample Student Exemplar Response</u>	

Implementation Tips:

- This task is intended to be integrated into a larger unit that contains hands-on science opportunities, student-led investigations, non-fiction reading, and a variety of other instructional strategies.
- Teachers may choose to use or modify the task as part of an instructional lesson or as a formative or summative assessment.
- Strategic instructional decisions will need to be determined prior to implementation such as:
 - Should the provided text be read aloud to students or read independently by students?
 - Will students work collaboratively or individually to complete the task?
 - What content knowledge and skills will students need to have prior to attempting the task?
 - Does the task need to be modified based on the needs of the students at the time of implementation?

- Read [Learn About The Pollination Process and Plants that Need Pollinators.](#)
- Listen to [What's the Impact of Early Blooms?](#)

Task Part 1: Explain three ways flowers benefit plants, animals, and people.

Task Part 2: Describe three situations that could affect the flowering of plants and the possible consequences of each. Use the articles to support your response.

Sample Student Exemplar Responses

Part 1:

The main job of flowers is reproduction in plants. The colors, shapes and scents of flowers attract insects, birds, and bats to land on them, collect pollen, and move the pollen to another flower. When this pollination happens, some flowers develop into fruits that humans and animals use for food. Some flowers provide insects pollen, nectar, and even shelter. Flowers and fruits are also used in the development of medicines.

Part 2:

Pesticides kill insects. This could keep insects from landing on flowers and being able to pollinate them. *Learn about the Pollination Process and Plants that Need Pollinators* says, "Without insect pollination, many food plants that we grow in our gardens cannot complete the pollination process and therefore, will not produce fruits or vegetables."

Plants may flower early if the temperatures get warm early. Some plants may grow bigger because of this. They will just keep growing and growing through the warm weather. Other plants may die back earlier in the year than they usually do.

Heavy rain or wind can prevent insects from reaching flowers or it can knock all the pollen off some flowers. *Learn about the Pollination Process and Plants that Need Pollinators* says, "Too much rain or too much wind can keep pollinators from being able to reach a plant and its flowers." If the flower is not pollinated, it will not produce seeds, fruits or vegetables.