

HOW ARE **PLANTS** **POLLINATED?**



by Emily Raij



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Words in **bold** are in the glossary.

A POLLINATION INVESTIGATION

Pour in the sugar and flour. Mix in blueberries. Bake and enjoy. Blueberry muffins take just a few steps. But we wouldn't have the ingredients without a big step called **pollination**.





Pollination helps new plants grow. Sugar, flour, and blueberries all come from plants. You have probably seen bees fly from flower to flower. Do you know what they are doing, besides eating? They're pollinating! They are taking pollen from one flower to another. Do you want to get a closer look?

Let's do an investigation to see what pollination looks like.

Grab some paper and markers or crayons. Draw a big flower. Start by drawing a circle. Then draw **petals** and leaves. Color the petals in a bright color. Cut out the flower. Repeat these steps to make another flower.

Now get a bowl of crumbled orange cheese puffs and a bowl of white powdered sugar. These will be the pollen!



Find two round plastic lids. Put a spoonful of orange pollen in one lid. Put white pollen in the other lid. Place one lid on each of your flowers. Now spray your finger with water. Your finger is the bee! Next, put your bee finger in each lid. What happens?





Your finger has both pollen colors stuck to it. Look at the lids. Do they have both pollen colors inside? Just like bees, you **transferred** pollen from one flower to another!