Have you ever wondered why plants have flowers? Flowers are responsible for making new seeds for a plant. Without new seeds we wouldn’t have new plants! Flowers use their colors, special patterns and fragrances to attract pollinators. Pollinators move pollen from flower to flower in a process called pollination. Pollinators such as bees, beetles, butterflies and hummingbirds help flowers to make seeds. Use your imagination to create your own special flower, pollinator and seeds in the spaces provided below.

**Flower**

Flowers come in all different shapes and sizes. Use the space below to invent your own flower. What color will it be? How many petals will it have? What will you name your flower?

**Pollinator**

What kind of pollinator will pollinate the flower you invented? Draw a picture of a pollinator in the space provided.

**Seeds**

What will the seeds of your flower look like? Will they be round? What color will they be? Use the space provided to draw what your flower’s seeds will look like.
Have you ever eaten a flower?
Have you ever eaten broccoli, cauliflower or artichokes? If you have you are actually eating a flower! Broccoli, cauliflower and artichokes are harvested before the plant’s flower actually blooms. When you eat one of these delicious vegetables you are eating the buds of the flower. Next time you prepare some broccoli, cauliflower or artichokes take a closer look. Can you see the flower buds?

Press a Flower
Try saving some of the colors of summer by pressing flowers to enjoy all year round. Pressing flowers is an easy and fun way to preserve flowers to use in different craft projects.

Directions for pressing flowers:

• Gather a few flowers you would like to preserve.
• Find a few heavy large books. Open one book to the middle page. Place a piece of paper down over the right page of the open book.
• Arrange your flowers on the paper. Add another piece of paper on top of the flowers and carefully close the book.
• Place another book or two on top of the closed book for extra weight. Leave the book in a dry place for several weeks.
• Gently open the book and carefully remove the paper and pressed flowers. Store your pressed flowers in an airtight container.

Use your dried flowers to make beautiful cards, bookmarks and more!

Flower and Pollinator Stories
Take a trip to the library and read more about flowers and pollinators. Look for these favorites:

The Life and Times of the Honeybee
Written By: Charles Micucci

In the Trees Honeybees
Written By: Lori Mortensen

Pick Pull Snap: Where Once a Flower Bloomed
Written By: Lola M. Schafer

On One Flower: Butterflies, Ticks and a Few More Icks
Written By: Anthony D. Fredricks

The Tiny Seed
Written By: Eric Carle