

# Pollination Investigation

## The Smithsonian Pollinator Garden

Nearly **90% of flowering plants** rely on about **200,000 species of animal pollinators** for fertilization. From butterflies and bees to flies and beetles, most pollinators are insects. But birds, bats, and small mammals also pollinate plants.

*The Smithsonian Pollinator Garden is a joint project of the Smithsonian Gardens and the National Museum of Natural History, with partial funding by the Smithsonian Women's Committee.*

Explore this garden to discover the **who, what, when, where, why, and how** of pollination.



Do you know that  
flowering plants are  
more than just pretty?



We eat their fruits, grains, and vegetables, and use their wood to build everything from boats to furniture to homes. Medicines come from their leaves, seeds, bark, and flowers. They filter water and buffer coastlines from storms. Their leaves release much of the oxygen we breathe.