

## OUTDOOR CLASSROOM FLOWER ACTIVITY GRADES K-2



Dear Parents:

During the first week of May your child had another opportunity to work in the outdoor classroom. During library time, the students read about flowers, observed flowers under a microscope and with a jeweler's loop, had a chance to look at the bulbs they planted in the fall, and sketched something they observed in the outdoor classroom. They also used an interactive web site to learn about the parts of the flower and pollination ([www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/gpe/index.html](http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/gpe/index.html)). Check out photos of the activities on our web site (<http://gloveroutdoorclassroom.home.comcast.net>).

This activity sheet provides some additional ideas for you and your child to do at home. Please feel free to send your comments, ideas or observations to [gloveroutdoorclassroom@comcast.net](mailto:gloveroutdoorclassroom@comcast.net).

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### ACTIVITIES TO DO AT HOME

- Observe the flowers growing in your neighborhood. Count the number of each color you see and graph the results. Which colors seem most popular? The least? Why?
  - Discuss the difference between an annual and perennial plant. What kinds do you have growing in your yard or neighborhood? (For more info, see <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>.)
  - Do some experiments! ([www.kidsgardening.com](http://www.kidsgardening.com) has some great experiment ideas to encourage your child to think like a scientist.)
  - Press flowers and use them to make bookmarks. (See [www.grannysgardenschool.com/pressing\\_flowers.html](http://www.grannysgardenschool.com/pressing_flowers.html).)
  - Sit in a garden or other nature area and observe. What types of insects are drawn to what types of flowers? Observe a bee in action and encourage your child to draw what he/she sees. Observe a garden at different times of the day. Encourage your child to record his or her observations.
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### WORD CHALLENGE

How many words can you make from the following words?

F L O W E R

Ex: Low

P E T A L

Ex: At

P O L L I N A T I O N

Ex: Tail

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## FLOWER FUN

1. Name two ways pollen moves from one flower to another.
2. Create your own flower. What color would it be? What shape? Include all the important parts: Petals, Sepals, Pistil, Stigma, Ovary, Stem. (See [www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/gpe/case1/c1facts2d.html](http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/gpe/case1/c1facts2d.html) for more info.)
3. Use the following number code to complete the math problems below and fill in the missing word:

CODE

3+3   5+2   1+0   1+1+1   8+2   3+2

A=7   E=10   I=9   G=6   R=1

L=4   D=3   N=5   H=8   T=2

2+2   5+4   3+3   4+4   2+0

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## BOOKS TO INVESTIGATE

- *Audubon First Field Guide: Wildflowers*
- *How Groundhog's Garden Grew* by Lynne Cherry
- *Sunflower House* by Eve Bunting
- *A Gardener's Alphabet* by Mary Azarian
- *Kids Garden!* by Avery Hart and Paul Mantell