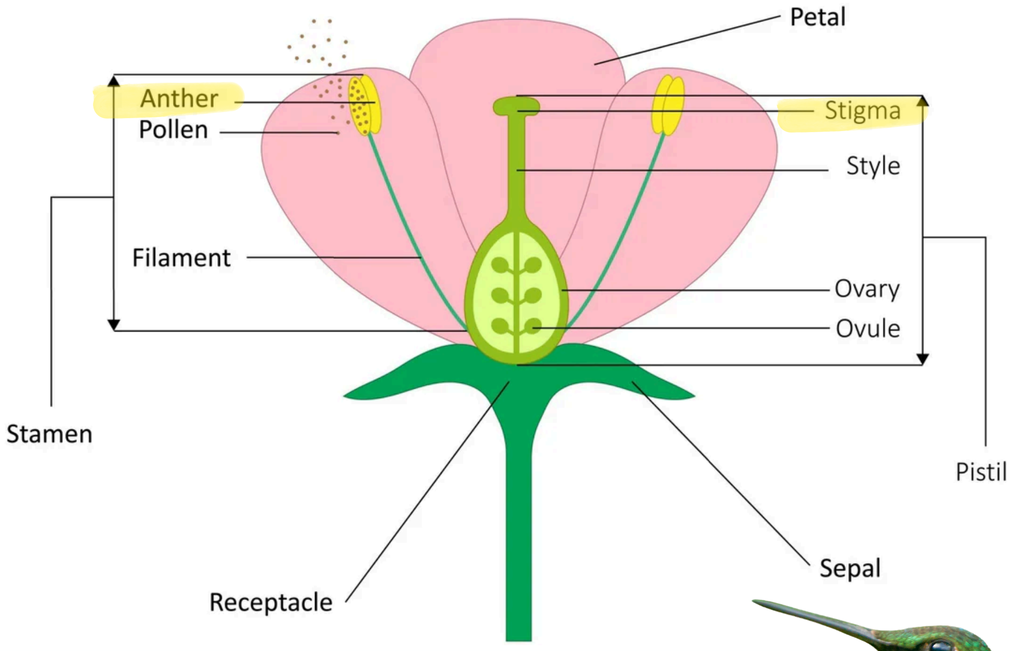
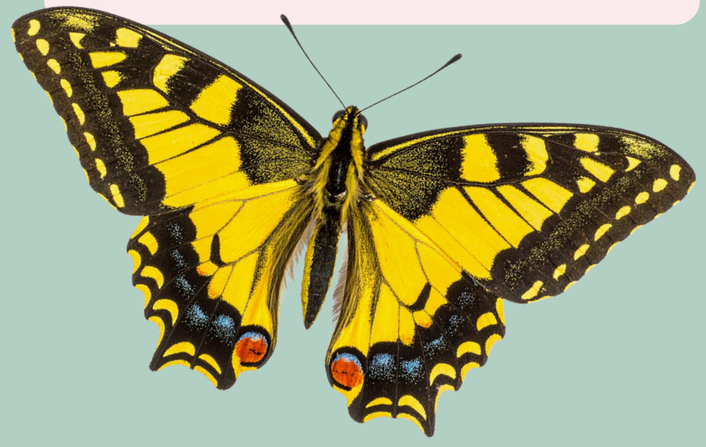
POLLINATION & POLLINATORS

Why? It allows plants to make seeds, fruits, and new plants!



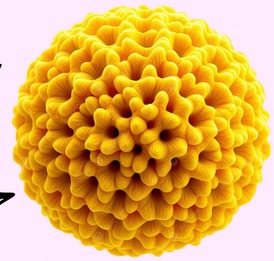
FUN FACT

One out of every three bites of food we eat depends on pollinators!



Pollen: Tiny, powdery yellow grains produced by the male part of a flower (the anther).

Microscopic View of a Pollen Grain



Pollen must land on the female part of a flower (the stigma) to create seeds and fruits

Tinker's Creek WATERSHED PARTNERS
Rediscover • Respect • Revitalize

HOW IT WORKS

Attraction - Colorful flowers
Visit/Pollen Pickup
Transfer - Stigma is sticky!
Fertilization

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WHY PLANT NATIVE?

They Grow Up Together: Native plants and native insects have lived together for a long time, so they're a perfect match. The insects know how to use these plants, and the plants know how to help the insects.

Better Food for Bugs: Native plants give local insects the exact kind of food they need.

- Some bees can only feed their babies pollen from certain native plants.
- Monarch butterflies can only lay their eggs on milkweed, which is a native plant.

More Caterpillars: Native plants grow way more caterpillars than plants from other places. More caterpillars means more butterflies and more food for birds.

Special Helpers Need Special Plants: About half of the bee species in North America can only survive if certain native plants are around. Without those plants, those bees can't live.

Flowers All Season Long: Native plants bloom at different times, so pollinators always have something to eat from spring to fall.

Ohio's pollinators include: Over 500 species of native bees, roughly 140 species of butterflies, 3,000+ moth species, as well as flies, wasps, beetles, and hummingbirds!