



Pollinator Habitat Education Program

Pollen Relay Game

Materials you will need:

- 2 sticks for start lines
- Red fuzz balls (nectar)
- Yellow fuzz balls (pollen)
- 3 bundles of 'flowers'

Setup: Place each variety of flower about 50ft away from each other, with about 12 each of the 'pollen' (yellow) and 'nectar' (red) fuzz balls nearby/under the flowers. Make a nest spot, a hive spot, and a starting line in front of these homebases, about 100 ft away from the flowers.

Divide children into 2 groups by counting off by ones and twos.

Split the groups into types of pollinators: hummingbirds (ones), bees (twos). To help them remember what they are, have the 'hummingbirds' fly forwards and backwards and flap their wings really fast, maybe sticking their tongues out, and have them go to a nest and line up behind a start line. Have the 'bees' buzz with shorter wings, and maybe dance a honey dance, and gather them into a hive and line up behind a start line (a simple stick will do).

Once the pollinators are in their hives/nests near the start line, have them form a line. (Only one 'hummingbird' can leave their nest at a time, or one 'bee' can leave their hive at a time) Say "the sun is up! Go go pollinators!" One pollinator from each group races to visit the flowers, pick up one **pollen** at the flower of their choice, drop it off at a DIFFERENT flower, pick up ONE **nectar** ball, and bring it back home to your family. They may leave it in a pile near the start line. Once they return to their 'home', the next pollinator in line may go. Continue until all the nectar is gone! Which group of pollinators got more nectar?

If time allows, play the game again with Nighttime pollinators. Have the students guess which pollinators come out at night (hint, Bats and Moths). Have the bats change their home to a cave, and the moths change their homes to a tree/shrub. Have the bats hold out their full arm length to show their long wingspan, remind them they are mammals. Moths have short little arms, and fly a little erratically. Start the game this time by saying "The sun is going down! Go Go pollinators!" Repeat the game as above, until all nectar is gone.

