

ILLINOIS

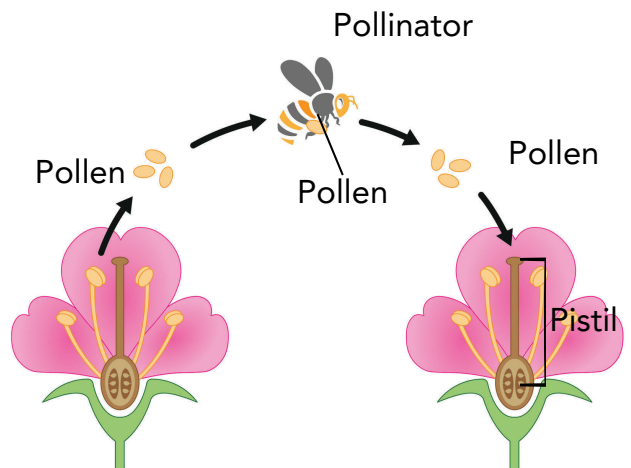
Junior Ag Mag

Pollinator Power

Pollinators can be tiny, but pollinators are very important. 35% of all food crops require pollinators.

WHAT'S THE BUZZ ON POLLINATION?

Many plants grow from a seed. A plant cannot make seeds unless it has been pollinated. When a pollinator visits a flower, it leaves behind **pollen** from the last flower it visited. When that pollen gets to a special part of the flower called the **pistil**, it has been pollinated and can start making seeds.



BUZZING TO MEET A POLLINATOR PROMOTER

Without pollinators, Michelle's apples, peaches, and pumpkins would not grow. She and her family decided to plant many native flowers to help support pollinators. **Have you ever planted flowers for pollinators?**



**DID YOU KNOW THAT
ONE IN THREE BITES
OF FOOD YOU EAT IS
POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF
POLLINATORS?**



Photo by: Devin Leigh Photography
**MICHELLE SIRLES AND HER
FAMILY OWN AND RUN
RENDLEMAN ORCHARDS IN
ALTO PASS, IL.**

SWEET SWEET HONEY BEES

Honey bees are very important pollinators. They help pollinate about \$15 billion dollars of crops each year in Illinois. Honey bees also give us things like honey, beeswax, and honeycomb. Have you ever tried fresh honey? Would you want to be a beekeeper and raise honey bees?



OTHER IMPORTANT POLLINATORS

BUTTERFLIES



The monarch butterfly is the Illinois State Insect.

NATIVE ILLINOIS BEES



These bees are very good at pollinating **native** Illinois flowers.

BIRDS



Hummingbirds are common in Illinois.

BATS



Bats help pollinate over 500 kinds of flowering plants.

FLIES



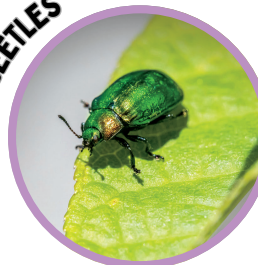
Flies like to visit "stinky" flowers.

WIND



The wind pollinates all grasses, most trees, and many crops.

BEEETLES



Beetles are some of the oldest pollinators.

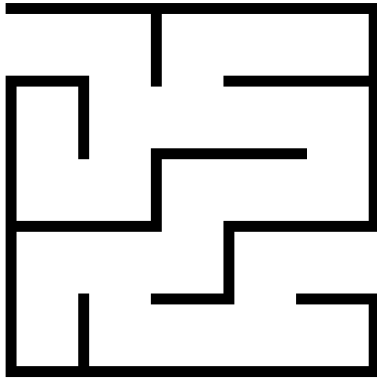
A "MAZE"ING POLLINATORS

Help each pollinator make it through the maze to the flowers or crops they most like to visit.



MONARCH BUTTERFLY

START



Purple
Coneflowers



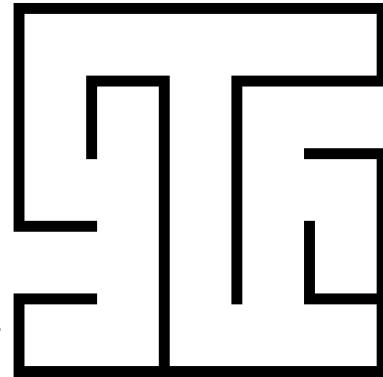
Milkweed



Black-eyed
Susans

NATIVE BUMBLE BEE

START



Tomatoes



Bell
Peppers



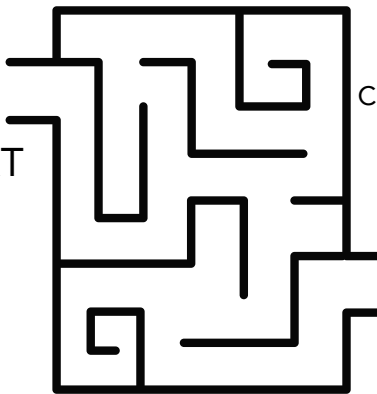
Strawberries



HOUSEFLY



START



Cauliflower



Onions



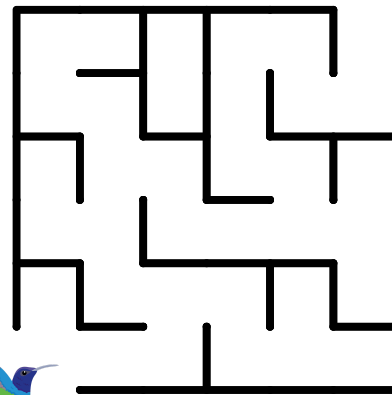
Carrots



HUMMINGBIRD



START



Petunias



Zinnias



Sunflowers



Share one thing you could do to help support pollinators in your area.
