

# Pollination

## Animal Pollination –

Pollinators, like bees and butterflies, visit flowers in their search for food (nectar and pollen). While at the flower, they brush against the flower's reproductive parts, depositing pollen from a different flower. The plant then uses the pollen to grow a fruit or seed. Many plants cannot reproduce without pollen carried to them by foraging pollinators.



## Pollination Facts

- \*Helps plants reproduce.
- \*Ensures long-term survival and diversity of plant communities through genetically diverse seeds.
- \*Three-fourths of the world's flowering plants depend on pollinators to reproduce.
- \*Most fruit, vegetable and seed crops—and other plants that provide fiber, medicines and fuel—are pollinated by animals.
- \*One out of every three bites of food we eat, scientists estimate, exists because of animal pollinators.



**Foods that would not exist without pollinators:**  
apples - blueberries  
strawberries - blackberries  
raspberries - cranberries  
cherries - watermelon  
peaches - avocados - onions  
cucumbers - grapefruit  
oranges - chocolate - almonds  
melons - peaches  
pears - plums - pumpkins