


Instructions



DW | Global Ideas Quiz | Pollinators | Question 1

How are plants pollinated?

- a) Pollination by wind
- b) Pollination by animals
- c) Self-pollination

Answers a) b) and c) are correct.

All three forms of pollination exist: wind, animal and self-pollination.
 Many tree and grass species depend on wind pollination.
 Most flowering plants, in contrast, rely on animals for help.
 Plants such as wheat, rice or beans pollinate themselves using their own pollen.
 Several plants use self-pollination, but only when they have not been pollinated by other means.

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True or false?

All pollinators are **insects**.

Answer: False!

The majority of pollinators are indeed insects. Examples include *bees*, *flies*, *moths* and *butterflies*. However, *birds*, *bats* and *lemurs* also pollinate plants.



True or false?

Wasps are pollinators.

Answer: True!

Wasps feed on nectar and pollen, among other things.

When they visit a flower, pollen sticks to their body hair and is transported to the next flower. Certain fig varieties can only be pollinated by specific wasp species.



True or false?

Ladybugs are pollinators.

Answer: False!

Ladybugs are not pollinators.

Because they don't eat pollen and nectar, they don't spread it.

They do love aphids and scale insects, which makes them natural pest controllers.
An adult ladybug will eat around 50 aphids a day.



True or false?

All flowers produce **nectar** to attract pollinators that will spread their pollen.

Answer: False!

Not all flowering plants produce pollen and nectar.

Flowers that are specially bred to have more petals so they look prettier generally don't produce pollen or nectar. Most bred varieties of roses fall into this category.

These flowers may look beautiful but are essentially useless for pollinators. Insects are still attracted to them, and only learn to avoid them after their first futile attempts to find food within their petals.



True or false?

Wind-pollinated plants produce more pollen than plants that rely on animals for pollination.

Answer: True!

Plants dependent on wind for pollination, such as *conifers*, *grasses* and many *broad-leaved trees*, have to produce large amounts of pollen. That increases their chances of propagation, which is ultimately down to chance.

In spring, we humans often suffer from pollen allergies due to the large amounts of pollen in the air.



True or false?

Around half of all plants reproduce through **pollination**.

Answer: False!

Some three-quarters of plants propagate through pollination.

Just one-quarter use vegetative reproduction, in which they use clones from a mother plant to reproduce.

One example of vegetative reproduction is the potato and its tubers, from which completely new plants can grow.



Wie viele Bienen müssen zusammenarbeiten,
um ein Glas Honig (500 Gramm) zu produzieren?

- a) etwa 200
- b) etwa 2.000
- c) etwa 20.000

Antwort c) ist richtig.

Etwa 20.000 Bienen müssen fleißig sein, um 500 Gramm Honig zu produzieren.



How quickly can a bee fly?

- a) As fast as a cyclist
- b) As fast as a car
- c) As fast as a jogger

Answer a) is correct.

A bee can fly as quickly as a fast cyclist – up to around 30 kilometers an hour.



How many honeybees live in a beehive in the summer?

- a) Around 5,000 bees
- b) Around 20,000 bees
- c) Around 50,000 bees

Answer c) is correct.

Only a few thousand bees live in a hive during the winter, but in the summer their numbers increase dramatically. A queen can lay up to 2,000 eggs a day, meaning the hive population can increase to around 50,000.



What is the bee's most dangerous natural enemy?

- a) Wasps
 - b) Mites
 - c) Moths
-

Answer b) is correct.

Varroa mites can wipe out entire bee populations. The parasite, which originated in Asia, invades beehives and transmits a virus into the bee larvae. It then multiplies in the hive's honeycombs. If the hives go untreated, the population will die after one to three years.



How many flowers must honeybees visit to produce a 500 gram jar of honey?

- a) Around 2,000 flowers
- b) Around 200,000 flowers
- c) Around 2,000,000 flowers

Answer c) is correct.

The nectar from approximately 2 million flowers is required to produce 500 grams of honey.