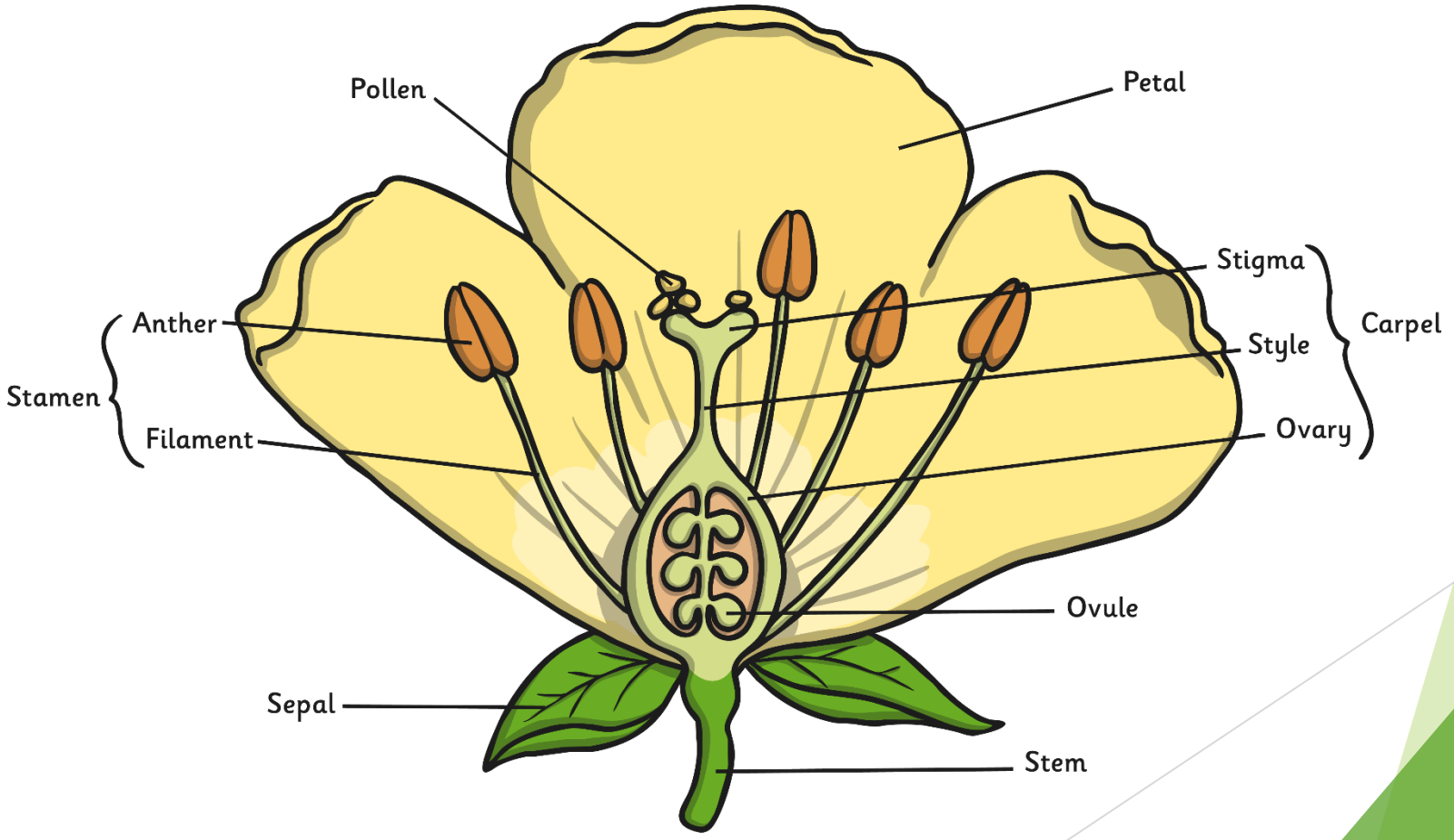
Year 4 - Science - Plants - Activity 1

To know the part that flowers play in the lifecycle of plants

Recap – What are the parts of the flower and what is the flowers job?

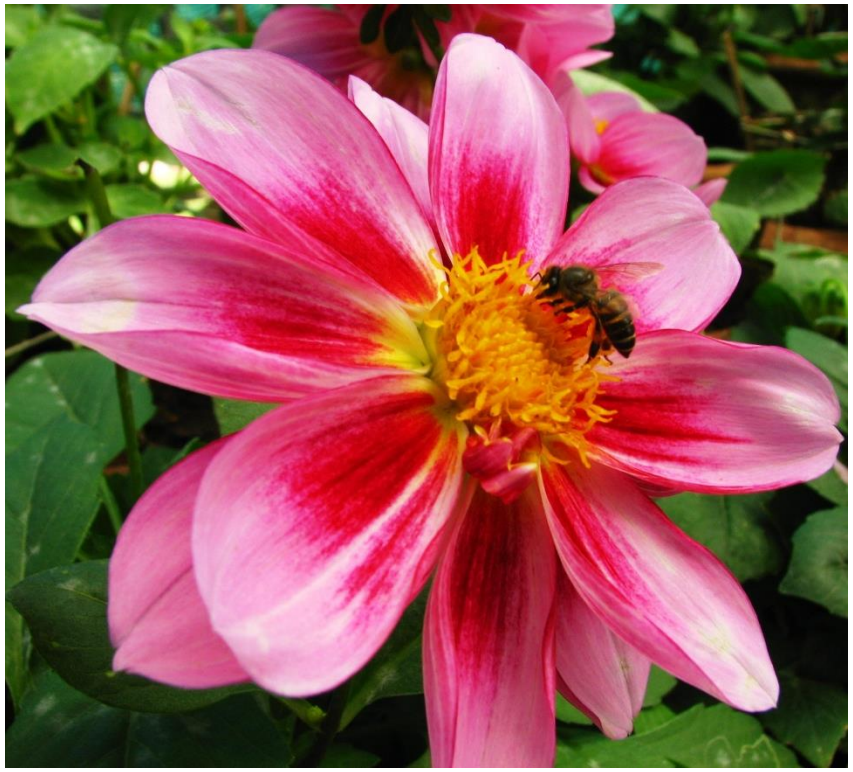
The flower's job is to create seeds so that new plants can be grown.
Flowers are made up of lots of parts that work together to make seeds.



Recap – What is pollination?

Pollination

Pollination occurs when pollen from the anther is transferred to the stigma. Wind can blow pollen from one plant to another.



Insects like bees and butterflies are attracted to the bright colours of the petals and the sweet scent of the flower.

They visit the flower to drink a sweet liquid called nectar.

Pollination

When an insect goes into the flower to drink the nectar, some grains of pollen brush off the anthers onto their body.

When the insect visits another flower for more nectar, the grains of pollen transfer from the insect's body to the sticky stigma of the new flower.
This is pollination.

This activity will look at the part that flowers play in the lifecycle of plants.

What is a lifecycle?

This activity will look at the part that flowers play in the lifecycle of plants.

What is a lifecycle?

A **life cycle** is a series of stages a living thing goes through during its **life**.

Life Cycle of a Flowering Plant

There are 5 main stages of the life cycle of a flowering plant.

What could stage 1 be?

Life Cycle of a Flowering Plant

1 Germination				

Let's see what happens at stage 1.

Germination

Germination is when a seed begins to grow.

Life Cycle of a Flowering Plant

1				
Germination				

What could stage 2 be?

Life Cycle of a Flowering Plant

1	2			
Germination	Growing and flowering			

Let's recap out what happens at stage 2.

Growing and Flowering

Once the seed has
germinated
the plant grows bigger
and
then forms flowers.

Life Cycle of a Flowering Plant

1	2			
Germination	Growing and flowering			

What could stage 3 be?

Life Cycle of a Flowering Plant

1	2	3		
Germination	Growing and flowering	Pollination		

Let's recap out what happens at stage 3.

Pollination

Pollination occurs when pollen from the anther is transferred to the stigma, often by an insect.

Life Cycle of a Flowering Plant

1	2	3		
Germination	Growing and flowering	Pollination		

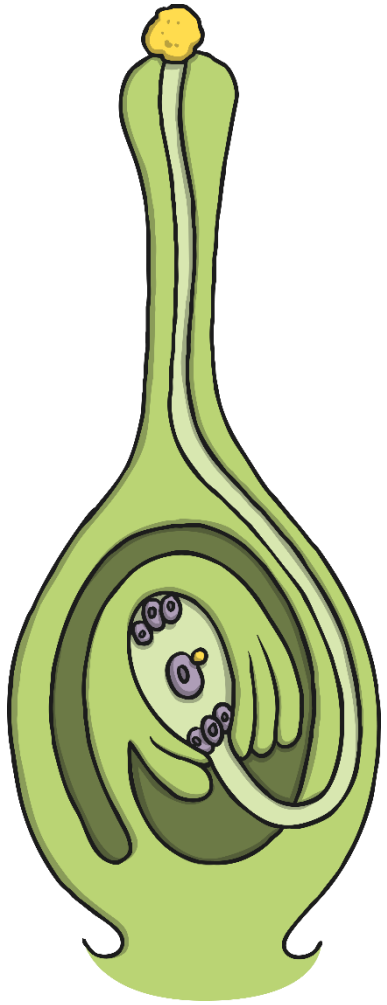
What could stage 4 be?

Life Cycle of a Flowering Plant

1	2	3	4	
Germination	Growing and flowering	Pollination	Fertilisation and seed formation	

Let's find out what happens at stage 4.

Fertilisation and Seed Formation



Fertilisation happens when the pollen travels from the stigma down the style to the ovary.

The pollen joins with an ovule to form a seed. The seed forms inside the ovary.

Life Cycle of a Flowering Plant

1	2	3	4	
Germination	Growing and flowering	Pollination	Fertilisation and seed formation	

What could stage 5 be?

Life Cycle of a Flowering Plant

1	2	3	4	5
Germination	Growing and flowering	Pollination	Fertilisation and seed formation	Seed dispersal

Let's find out what happens at stage 5.

Seed Dispersal

Once the seeds are fully formed, the plant needs to disperse them.

This means that the plant needs to move or transport the seeds away from the parent plant in some way so that they don't all try to grow in the same place.

There are lots of different ways that seeds can be dispersed.

Seed Dispersal

4 main ways that seeds can be dispersed include:

water

the wind

explosion

animals

You will learn about this stage in more detail later ☺

Life Cycle of a Flowering Plant

1	2	3	4	5
Germination	Growing and flowering	Pollination	Fertilisation and seed formation	Seed dispersal

Can you explain what happens at each stage to someone in your house.

Task

What are the different stages of the life cycle?

Draw these.

The task sheet shows you how to set out a life cycle however you do not need to print this sheet. You could draw it on a separate piece of paper, use chalk to draw it outside, paint it or any other way you can think of to present your learning ☺

How Did You Do?

Germination

Growing and Flowering

Pollination

Fertilisation and Seed Formation

Seed Dispersal