

Why Protect Pollinators?



Vocabulary for Students

- **Biodiversity:** The number of species in an area.
- **Cacao:** The seeds from which cocoa and chocolate are made; a tropical evergreen tree that bears the seeds from which cocoa and chocolate are made.
- **Chocolate midges:** Various species of tiny flies that are the only known pollinators of the cacao tree.
- **Citizen science:** The involvement of the general public in scientific research, including data collection and analysis.
- **Climate change:** A change in the average long-term conditions of temperature, precipitation, winds, and clouds in an area.
- **Ecosystem:** The community of organisms in an area, along with their nonliving surroundings.
- **Habitat destruction/loss:** Loss of natural habitat due to factors like deforestation, for example.
- **Indigenous populations:** People who are the direct ancestors of the original inhabitants of a place, as opposed to people who have settled in or colonized an area.
- **Nutrients:** Substances that provide nourishment for growth and survival.
- **Pesticides:** Substances used to kill insects or other things that are harmful to plants or animals.
- **Pollen:** Tiny particles produced by seed plants that contain the cells that later become sperm cells.
- **Pollination:** The transfer of pollen from the male reproductive structures to female reproductive structures in plants.
- **Pollinator:** An organism, such as a bee, moth, or bat, that transfers pollen from the male reproductive structures of a plant to the female reproductive structures.
- **Resilience:** Toughness; the ability to recover quickly from difficulty.
- **Self-pollination:** The transfer of pollen from the male reproductive structure of a flower to the female reproductive structure of that same flower or a flower on the same plant.

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