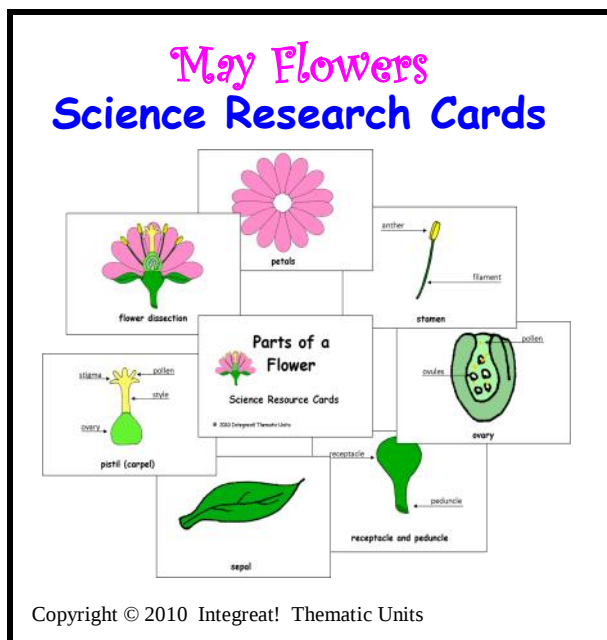




May Flowers

Science Research Cards Information

Grades 4-5

Objective

Students will read information regarding the reproductive system of a flower. They will use the information to identify parts of a flower as they dissect it. They will record summary information about each flower part in a booklet.

Preparation

1. Select the appropriate reading level for your class (file g2 [Science Research Information Cards, Grades 23](#), or file g3 [Science Research Information Cards, Grades 45](#)). Print the information, page 2, on the back of the images (file g1 Science Research Image Cards, for all grades). Be sure to feed the images through your printer so the correct information is on the back of each image. Make as many copies as you need. (I suggest one set for every 2 students, if you are dissecting as a class. Two-three sets are sufficient for a center.)
2. Laminate, cut apart, and store in a zippered baggie. (Use the image at the top of this page to label the baggie.)



Uses

- Provide enough flowers for each student to dissect one. Use the "Science Research Cards" (this file) and the flower dissection worksheet, "Fantastic Flora" (file i1 [Flower Dissection Worksheet, Grades 23](#) or file i2 [Flower Dissection Worksheet, Grades 45](#)) to walk the students through the dissection.
- Place the cards at a center for student exploration.
- Dissect several flowers yourself. Run each of the flower parts through a laminator to make display items. Cut them apart and place them at your science center. Have students match the actual parts with the "Science Research Cards" (this file). (You may want to press the pieces in a [plant press](#) first. You can get directions on how to make one at [Teachers Pay Teachers](#).)
- Have students match the "Science Photo Cards" (file h Science Photo Cards, all grades) with the "Science Research Cards" (this file) to identify flower parts without dissection.
- Use these cards with the "Merry Month of May" game board (file f). Students choose a card and retell the role it plays in reproduction before taking a turn.
- Use these cards to review information about plant reproduction. Keep a set of cards by your chair, and whenever you have a few minutes, choose a card, show the image, and have a student describe its role in reproduction.



Flower Dissection

A flower is the part of a plant that is responsible for **reproduction** (ree pro DUCK shun), the process by which it makes new plants. Each flower has a number of different parts that are important in the reproductive cycle. You will be able to see and identify all the important parts of a flower by carefully taking it apart, a process scientists call **dissection** (die SEKT shun).

Parts of a Flower

You can use these cards to help you with your research. They can be used to identify the parts of a flower as you **dissect** (die SEKT) it. You can learn what each part of the flower does and how a plant develops a seed to grow a new plant. You can use these cards to help you practice new information and to help you review for a test. Have fun with them!

Stamen

The **stamen** (STAY mun) is the part of the plant that produces pollen. It is made up of two sections: the **anther** (AN thur) and the **filament** (FILL uh mint). The anther, found at the top of the stamen, makes the **pollen** (POLL un). Gently shake the flower over a sheet of black paper. The yellow powdery substance that comes off is pollen. The filament is the long, thin stalk that holds the anther up so that the pollen will be easier to disburse.

Petals

A **petal's** (PET uhl) job is to attract bees, and other **pollinators** (POL in ay ters), so they are often large and brightly colored. Insects visiting the plant collect a yellow powder called **pollen** (POL un) on their legs and feet. When they move to another flower they transfer the pollen to it. This process is called **pollination** (poll in AY shun) and it starts the **reproductive** (ree pro DUCK tiv) cycle.

Ovary

The **ovary** (OH vuh ree) is where the seeds grow. It holds the **ovules** (AWV yools), which will start to grow into seeds when pollen reaches them. The pollen is what makes the ovules start to grow. This is called **fertilization** (fur til uh ZA shun). If seeds have not been fertilized (pollinated), they cannot grow. In a fruiting plant, the ovary will grow into the fruit that we eat!

Pistil

The **pistil** (PIS tuhl), also called the **carpel** (CAR puh), helps the pollen travel down into the place where the seeds form. The pistil has three sections. At the top is the **stigma** (STIG muh). In order to begin seed production, the pollen must fall into the sticky stigma and travel down the **style** (stile) until it reaches the **ovary** (OH vuh ree), which is the large rounded section at the bottom of the pistil.

Receptacle and Peduncle

The **receptacle** (ree SEP tuh kuhl) is the rounded part of the flower stalk where all the flower parts are attached. It sometimes grows to become part of the fruit. The **peduncle** (puh DUNG kuhl) is the flower stalk. It is strong and holds the flower up above the rest of the plant so that insects, wind, or other animals will be more likely to pollinate it.

Sepal

The **sepal** (SEE puh) is the part of the flower that looks like a leaf growing at the base of the flower, but it isn't a leaf at all. Sepals are often green, but they can be the same color as the petals. The sepals cover the bud and protect the flower before it is big enough to open. All the sepals of the plant, gathered together at the base of the flower, are called the **calyx** (KAY licks).