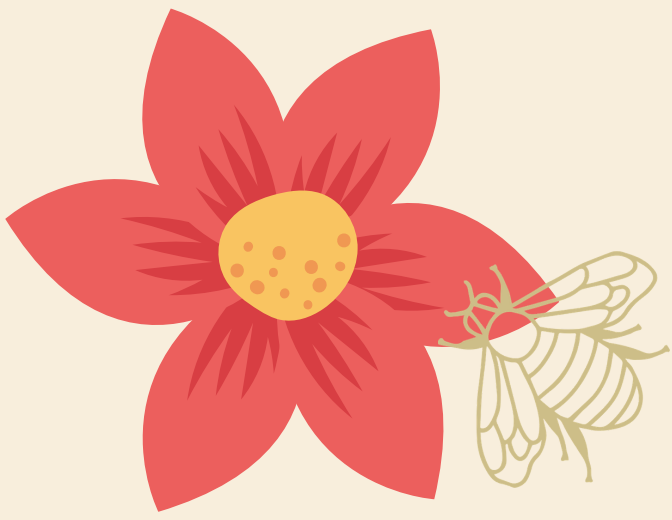
The Power of Pollination

with the Bee Friendly Trust

Why are pollinators so important? Well, they assist in pollination - which is essentially how plants reproduce.

Plants contain pollen.

Pollen is the tiny powdery grain in flowers that causes plants to form seeds. Most plants need pollen from another plant to be fertilised. This is called 'cross pollination'.



Pollen is moved from plant to plant.

Plants need help to move their pollen from one flower to another. Pollinators, including bees, insects, birds and bats, help to move pollen, as does the wind.

Pollen causes fertilisation.

When pollen is moved from one flower to another, it is transferred from the anther (the male part of a flower) to the stigma (the female part). Pollen fertilises the egg cells in the ovary of a flower.

Pollen helps seeds to form.

The egg cells become fruits. The fruits contain seeds. When the seeds are planted, they grow to make new plants.

Pollen produces new plants.

Which contain pollen - and so the cycle begins again...