

Answers - Pollinator Profiles



In the shaded area of the table below, name the animal which is most likely to pollinate each type of flower :

Bat

- ▶ Feed at night
- ▶ Drink large amounts of nectar and eat pollen
- ▶ Long muzzles
- ▶ Long tongues

Moth

- ▶ Most feed at night
- ▶ Drink small amounts of nectar
- ▶ Good sense of smell
- ▶ Long sucking mouthparts

Bird

- ▶ Feed during the day
- ▶ Drink large amounts of nectar
- ▶ Eat insects visiting flowers
- ▶ Long thin beaks
- ▶ Good colour vision
- ▶ Bad sense of smell

Bee


- ▶ Feed during the day
- ▶ Drink nectar and collect pollen
- ▶ Good colour vision (including UV, but cannot see red)
- ▶ Good sense of smell

Butterfly

- ▶ Feed during the day
- ▶ Drink small amounts of nectar
- ▶ Good colour vision
- ▶ Good sense of smell
- ▶ Long sucking mouthparts

Beetle

- ▶ Feed mainly on sap, fruit and dung
- ▶ Drink nectar or chew petals and pollen
- ▶ Good sense of smell
- ▶ Poor colour vision

	Pollinators					
	Moth	Bee	Bat	Bird	Beetle	Butterfly
Size	Various	Various	Large	Large	Large	Various
Shape	Open	Various – can mimic	Tubular	Tubular	Open	Various
Colour	White or pale	Colourful (esp. blue and yellow, not red)	Dull	Colourful (esp. red & yellow)	White or dull	Colourful (esp. red & orange)
Scent	Sweet and strong	Sweet and strong	Fruity or musty	Poor	Fruity or foul	Sweet and strong
Nectar	Sparse at end of tube	Sparse	Plentiful	Plentiful	Sometimes	Sparse at end of tube
Other	Scent only at night	Guidelines on petals	Open only at night			

