



## Design your own pollinator garden!



### Activity 1:

Now that you're well on your way to becoming a pollinator expert, design the blueprint of pollinator garden for your own backyard. Use what you learned from Nick and Jessie about pollinators and the plants they need to survive. You can use any materials available to you: construction paper and crayons, markers, pencils etc. The only rule is that you need to draw what your garden will look like in all four seasons: winter, spring, summer, and fall. There is no right way to design this garden, so be as creative as you can!

To help you get started:

- Where will your garden go?
- How big will it be?
- What kinds of pollinators will it attract?
- What plants do those pollinators need?
- What kinds of plants do you want to grow? (Tall ones? Ones with purple flowers? Yellow flowers?)
- Will the garden also provide nesting sites or only flowers for foraging?
- Will the garden include a water feature? (Remember: pollinators need to drink too!)
- Will you mulch the garden or leave the ground bare?
- How often will you clean up the garden (remove dead stems and leaves)?

### Activity 2:

When you've finished your design, take it one step closer to reality: build a diorama. Use a shoebox/tissue box or other cardboard box as the structure of your garden. Then, go out into your yard and collect grass, leaves, pinecones, sticks, and flowers and piece them together into your garden. You could even draw or print out images of pollinators and glue them on to popsicle sticks to make your garden diorama come to life!

In two weeks, we'll meet again (virtually) to share our designs. Be sure to bring your drawings and/or your diorama to the computer to share with your Green Team peers and, if you like, you'll have the chance to explain your thinking behind your garden.

We hope these activities get you excited about supporting pollinators at home and maybe one day you'll be able to plant the garden you designed. You'll be surprised how quickly pollinators will arrive at your garden once flowering. Within the first year, Nick and Jessie counted over 50 kinds of butterflies and bees at the garden they planted at Tufts University. How many will you find?