

# Science Story Adventures



## Animal Attraction and Pretty Plants

### Learning outcomes

- » Plants and animals have predictable life cycles. (Life Sciences – Grade 2)
- » Adaptations in physical structure or behavior may improve an organism's chance for survival. (Life Sciences – Grade 3)
- » Students know many plants depend on animals for pollination and seed dispersal. (Life Sciences – Grade 4)

From: *California's Science Content Standards*

### Books we read

*Hello, Hello!* by Miriam Schlein

*The Hungry Hummingbird* by April Pulley Sayre

### Activities we did

- » We learned about how elephants communicate with each other and then put on elephant ears and "trunks" to act this out ourselves from *Elephants and Their Young: Science and Math Activities for Young Children*. Nat. Ctr. QL737 .P97 E25 2001, p.51.
- » We looked at different flowers and talked about what adaptations they have to attract pollinators.

### Today's craft: Heart-Shaped Butterfly

#### You will need:

- » Pencils
- » Red and white construction paper
- » Heart templates
- » Scissors
- » Glue
- » Sticky tape
- » Googly eyes
- » Pipe cleaners
- » Yarn



#### Directions:

1. Fold red and white paper in half. Draw round templates on indicated color.
2. To make the wings, glue large heart onto very large heart and medium heart onto large heart.
3. To make the body, glue 4 small hearts together in line. Lay it so hearts are upside down.
4. Glue medium red heart onto body – this is the head.
5. Tape on pipe cleaners as antennae and stick on googly eyes.
6. Lay out wings slightly overlapping and glue body to wings.
7. Tape a small loop of yarn onto butterfly to hang it up.

Adapted from <http://www.dltk-holidays.com/valentines/mbutterfly.htm>

# Want to find out more?

Here is a selection of further resources to explore in the Naturalist Center, in the public library or at home. Please ask if you can't find what you're looking for.

## Books

*Animal Communication* by Janet McDonnell. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL776 .M38 1989

Presents how different species each convey the different messages animals might send each other (e.g. "Danger!" "Off my property!" "Supper time!").

*Animal Talk: Barks, Growls, Hisses, Howls* by Janet McDonnell. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL776 .M384 1990

Learn from Professor Facto why a cat might purr, a crow might caw and a gorilla might beat his chest.

*Bees Dance and Whales Sing: The Mysteries of Animal Communication* by Margery Facklam. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL776 .F33 1992

Discusses how a variety of animals communicate, including cross-species communication.

*The Clover and the Bee: A Book of Pollination* by Anne Ophelia Dowden. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QK926 .D68 1990

Covers pollinators and flower adaptations in depth.

*Pollinating a Flower* by Paul Bennett. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QK926 .B42 1994

Large color photos help to explain pollination and pollinators such as insects, animals, the wind and humans.

## DVDs

*First Flower*. Nat. Ctr. Media QK653 .F57 2007

Older children may enjoy this NOVA feature about the world's earliest plant.

*The Life of Birds*, Part 2. Nat. Ctr. Media QL698.3 .L53 2002

Shows how birds use sounds, color and other signals to attract others and keep safe.

*Zoboomafoo: Chirp and Chatter Double Feature*. Nat. Ctr. Media QL776 .Z62 2003

PBS kids' beloved wildlife series explores how animals communicate.

## Websites

How Wolves Communicate

A guide to the meanings of posture and sounds. Some links are no longer active.

<http://www.units.muohio.edu/dragonfly/com/>

NatureWorks: Communication

Includes an overview of different types of animal communication: visual, auditory, chemical and tactile.

<http://www.nhptv.org/natureworks/nwep3.htm>

Pick the Pollinator

An interactive game from the BBC

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/nature/pollination-game.html>



Wings  
(Red)



Body  
(Red)



Wings  
(Red)



Head



Wings  
(White)



Body (White)

