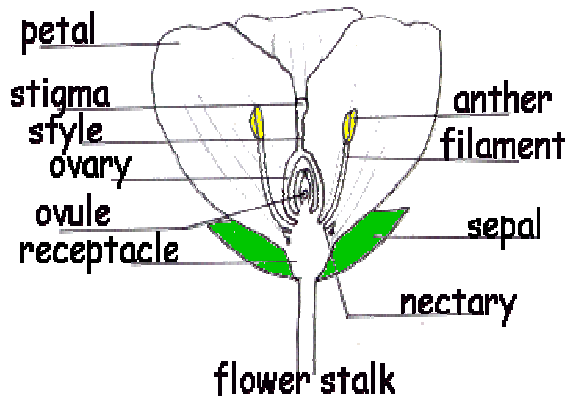


Purpose: This lab will help familiarize you with the reproductive parts of flowers.

1. Common name of your flower: _____

2. Scientific name of your flower: _____

Use a magnifying lens to examine each of the following parts. Record how many you find in your simple flower. Sketch and label the parts of the flower. An example is provided for you.



Example Sketch



Your Sketch

Count and record how many of each your flower has:

- 3. Sepals? (Thick outer parts that protect the flower when it is closed) _____
- 4. Petals? (Colored parts that attract pollinators) _____
- 5. Anthers? (Football shaped male parts at the end of the stamen) _____
- 6. Pollen grains? (Tiny yellow specks on the anther) _____
- 7. Pistils? (Female part that has a swollen ovary at the bottom and a sticky part called a stigma at the top.) _____
- 8. Eggs? (Small specks found inside the ovary at the bottom of the pistil) _____

9. Describe smell of your flower: _____

Carefully mount one of each of the following:

10. Sepal	11. Petal	12. Anther	13. Pistil	14. Pollen

15. Pollen grains are the male sex cells of the flower. Eggs are the female sex cells. When the pollen is brought to the female part of the flower it is called pollination. Why do you think that the pistil is sticky at the top?

16. There are a few different ways that pollen can be brought to the pistil: insects, wind, birds, animals and water . Which do you think pollinates your flower and why?

17. Name an insect that you have seen pollinating flowers. _____

18. Why do you think flowers are brightly colored?

18. “Hay fever” is an allergic reaction to pollen floating in the air. Some plants that use the wind to spread their pollen are grass, trees and corn. Take a sample of your pollen and look at it under the microscope. Sketch what you see:

19. The male sex cells in the pollen are called sperm. When the sperm and eggs combine, sexual reproduction occurs and the egg is fertilized. The fertilized egg becomes a seed. Where would you predict you would find seeds in a fertilized flower?

20. How many seeds could your flower produce? _____

21. Do all flowers look the same? Why do you think that is true?

22. If there are more flowers in the summer time, why do more people suffer from pollen allergies in the winter time? (hint, think about how flowers are pollinated)

