

Activity-35: Studying different flowers

Aim: How to study any kind of Flower?

Requirements:

Explore your surroundings neighbours, streets, barren plots, near Railway tracks near local ponds and flower markets and in gardens and collect as many different flowers as possible of all SIZES. Do not neglect flowers which are very small. You can collect flowers from all kinds of plants; from large trees to small grass runners.

You will need a hand lens, razor blades, plain paper, graph paper, scale and pencil. Try to collect 2 flowers of the same type.

Procedure:

Draw the outline of the flower. It can be a rough approximation. Do not spend time in shading. You must label the parts and also mention the colour of that part. Your drawing must be proportional in size.

Make a longitudinal cut of the flower and make a drawing of the section. Label the parts and mention the colour.

Now make transverse sections of the flower from tip to tip at various lengths. After each cut, make a drawing of the section. You must label the parts and mention the colour. You must also mention the distance of the section from either tip.

Make a drawing of each part of the flower separately. The parts you must draw are: petals, sepals, stamens, anthers, pistils, stigma and ovary. You can also place the flower on the plain paper and mark the outline for your drawing to be accurate.

For further studies try to follow the table given below:

Observation:

Description/flower no.	Flower-1	Flower-2	Flower-3...
Name of the flower if you know.			
Tip to tip length of the flower.			
Width of the flower			
Fragrant smell present/absent			
Sepals present/ absent			
Number of sepals			
Are the sepals separate/attached			
If sepals are attached then to what			
Colour of sepals			
Area of each sepal			
Petals present/absent			
Are the petals separate/attached			
If petals are attached then to what			
Number of petals			
Colour of petals			
Area of each petal			
Stamens absent/present			
Pistils absent or present			
Number of stamens			

Length of stamens			
Colour of stamens			
Number of pistils			
Length of pistils			
Colour of pistils			
Are all or some of the stamens separate			
If the stamens are attached then to what			
Are all or some of the pistils separate			
If the pistils are attached then to what			
Shape of ovary			
Colour of ovary			
Are the anthers higher or lower than the stigma			
How is the surface of the ovary			
How many ovaries are present			
Are the stigmas attached or separate			
If the stigmas are attached then to what			
Are the anthers attached or separate			
If the anthers are attached then to what			

Questions:

Is sunflower a single flower or a group of flowers?

What is saffron?

Did you find a flower which only had stamens or male parts?

Did you find a flower that only had pistils or female parts?

Did you find flowers that had both stamens and pistils?

Did you find any flower which had neither stamens nor pistils?

