

## **Pollinator Pathway Audit Toolkit**

### **Challenge Objective:**

Investigate how pollinator-friendly your community is and find ways to make it better.

### **Challenge Overview:**

In this challenge, you'll become a pollinator protector. You can do this on your own, with friends, as a club, or with your class. You can...

- Research native pollinators in your community
- Conduct a "pollinator audit" of a park, street, or even your own yard
- Identify "pollinator deserts" and design mini-fixes to fill those gaps, like bee hotels or nectar-rich planters
- Share your findings with others to help pollinators thrive



#### Short on Time? Choose Your Path:



### **Explorer:**

Do the Research and Explore steps.



#### Researcher:

Start with the Research and Expert Interview steps.



#### **Designer:**

Try out the Explore and Document sections.



#### Advocate:

Focus on the Research and Take Action steps.



## RESEARCH

### Goal:

Learn about your local pollinators and what helps them thrive.

### **Activity:**

Choose one or more to get started:

- Look up a short video or article about pollinators and their importance
- Identify 3-5 common pollinators in your area and what they need to thrive
- Research what makes a space pollinator-friendly (Hint: flowers, water, nesting spots, no pesticides)





## EXPLORE

#### Goal:

Conduct your own "Pollinator Audit."

## Choose a site to study pollinators like your school, local park, or even your own backyard.

- **Observe:** Note flowers, bushes, water sources, and any pollinators you see (or don't see).
- Mark and document: Use sticky notes, chalk, or photos to highlight areas that help or don't help pollinators.
- **Record your findings:** Use your phone, a notebook, or our templates to note your findings.



**Tips:** Can't go outside or short on time? Use Google Street View or local park maps to study green spaces and flowering areas.

## LEARN FROM AN EXPERT

#### Goal:

Gain firsthand insight from a pollinator expert.

### **Activity:**

Interview or email a master gardener, park ranger, or community garden leader.

### Sample Questions:

- What native plants attract local pollinators in our community?
- What challenges do pollinators face in cities or neighborhoods?
- How can small spaces (like balconies or school planters) make a difference in supporting pollinators?







# DOCUMENT YOUR FINDINGS

#### Goal:

Turn your findings into a creative product or design.

### Choose one or more idea (or come up with your own!):

- Draw a map showing pollinator-friendly areas and "deserts." Add your suggested "fixes" like small planters, bee hotels, or water dishes. Use our Desert Map template for inspiration!
- Create a poster, infographic, or video showing what pollinators need and how your community or school can help.
- Design a mini pollinator station or bee hotel prototype using recycled materials.
- Create a mini interactive Pollinator Adventure Guide that turns your site audit into a story or game with maps, challenges, and DIY tips to help pollinators thrive.



# TAKE ACTION

#### Goal:

Share your ideas and make an impact!

### Bring this to your community to make an even bigger impact:

- Pitch your idea to your teacher, club, or principal using our "Pitch Template"
- Work with your school or community to build one small pollinator fix (flower box, native plant bed, or mini bee hotel)
- Spread awareness through social media posts, short videos, or posters encouraging others to support pollinators
- Host a Pollinator Pop-Up event at your school fair, library, park, or community center







## REFLECTION

## Think about what you learned and how it connects to bigger ideas. Ask yourself:

- Where did pollinators have plenty of resources and where were they missing?
- What small changes could have the biggest impact for pollinators in your community?

By exploring, designing, and taking action, you've helped make your community a safer, more welcoming place for pollinators - showing that even small changes can make a big difference.

