***Amazing Pollinators***

**Jan. 25-Sept. 7, 2020**

**Did You Know?**

* In addition to animals, wind and water also help with pollination.
* Flowers attract pollinators by color and scent. Some flowers have hidden patterns and colors visible only to pollinators that can see in the ultraviolet spectrum.
* More than 75% of all flowering plants are pollinated by animals.
* In the U.S., pollination produces nearly $20 billion worth of products annually including an estimated one-third of all food and beverages.
* Chocolate midges, flies smaller than a pin head, are the only creatures known to pollinate the cacao plant.
* Hummingbirds are the most common avian pollinators.
* There are more than 4,000 native bee species in the U.S.
* More than 300 species of food-producing plants depend on bats for pollination, including the agave plant, from which tequila is made.
* Bees don’t only live in hives: Mason bees construct nests from mud while leafcutter bees create a shelter with leaves, resin and sand.
* Hummingbird hearts beat 1,200 times a minute. They have to drink several times their weight in nectar every day in order to survive.
* Butterflies taste with their feet and are found on every continent except Antarctica.
* Some species of butterflies and moths mimic the color and patterns of distasteful or poisonous species for survival. Similarly, some flies masquerade as bees and wasps.

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