

Learn More About Flower Anatomy

Flowers can all look very different! They can be different colours, different sizes and shapes. However, most of them have the same fundamental anatomy (parts) which all have important roles.

When collecting materials and resources, please do this responsibly and sensibly. Please don't damage living things. Only collect materials that are already on the ground.

Step 1

First of all, head out into your garden, local grass verge (be super careful near any roads) or open space and find a few different flowers in one area. **Without picking the flower**, just crouch down and have a closer look at the flowers. Can you see different parts to the flowers? Why not make a quick sketch or take a photograph of a few. **Flowers are much more useful when they are in the ground, so we don't need to pick any to do this activity.**

Instead, you can use other natural materials, photos and sketches of flowers. We have provided you with lots of information below, to help you to create flower anatomy diagrams. These can be as detailed as you like.

JOHN MUIR DISCOVER AWARD Summer Holiday Family Challenge



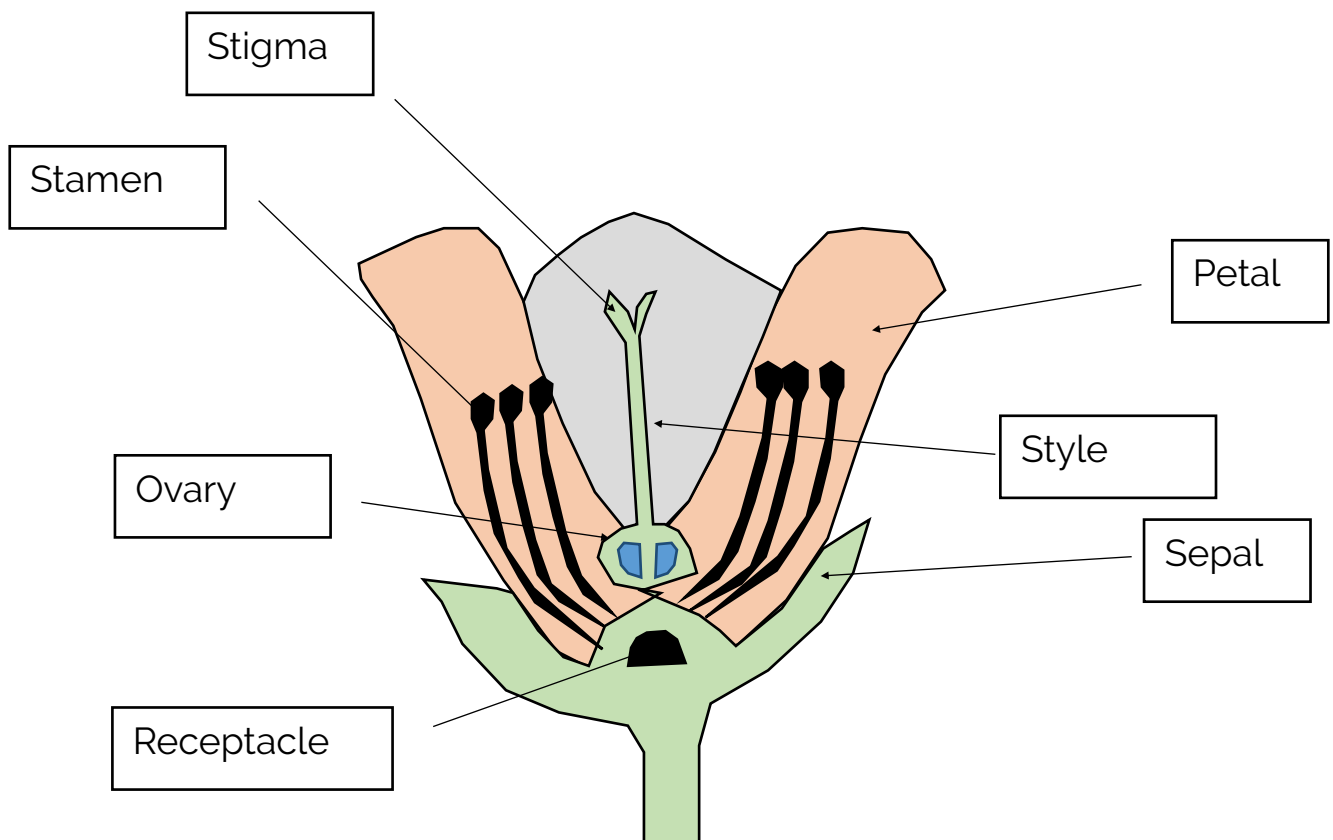
Step 2

On the way back home, or elsewhere in your garden start collecting other natural resources that are already on the ground—for example twigs/sticks, leaves, grasses/moss.

Step 3

Once at home, or in your garden, find a plain piece of A4 card or paper (the colour doesn't really matter) or use a page from your scrapbook! You will also need a pencil, some sticky tape and glue.

Take a look at the diagram below. This is a really rough sketch of a generic flower and the different parts within it. All flowers look different, so each part may not be in the exact same place in each flower, and not all flowers have all of the parts!



Turn over to find out more about each of the different parts of a flower.

Petals: These are the colourful parts of the flower, and makes the flower attractive to bees and insects.

Stamen: Pollen can be found on this part of the flower. The Stamen is made up of the Anther, that has the pollen at the top, and the Filament, which support it and holds it up. As the insect travel towards the bottom of the plant to get the nectar, the pollen rubs off onto their body and will be transported to another plant.

Stigma, Style and Ovary: All these parts make up the Carpel. The Style holds up the Stigma, the Stigma is the part where pollen germinates and the Ovary produces eggs—so it is a super important part.

Sepal: The outer parts of the flower, which is usually green and helps protect it,

Receptacle: The top of the flower stalk, where the flower head is attached.

Step 4

Now using your natural materials, try and represent the parts of a flower on your piece of paper or card, using the diagram above and any other research to help you. For example, you may want to use a twig as the flower stalk, or a piece of grass for the Stamen. When you have stuck down your materials, why not label up each part of the flower and write a key fact about what that part does for the flower

Step 5

We would love to see photos of your flower anatomy creations! And next time you see a flower, take a closer look to see if you can point out all the parts.

You can find more information about flowers on the BBC Bitesize website, search Ivy's Plant Shop.