



THE GREAT SUNFLOWER PROJECT

**Identify where pollinators need
help.**

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Join a community of gardeners, beekeepers, birders and naturalists who are providing thousands of records of pollinators each year. Your records are invaluable data on the state of our pollinators and are helping to build the best data set on plants and pollinators.

The best and most useful way to contribute to the Great Sunflower is to focus on a particular site or set of sites. Each time you visit your yard, favorite park or wild area, you can do a pollinator count on any of the plants in that space. Over time, this will be a list of the most important plants for each pollinator and give you an indication of which plants are important at what times of year.



MATERIALS NEEDED

Camera or smartphone with camera, Computer or smartphone with Internet access, GreatSunflower.org on web. Optional: Clip-on lens kit

STEP 1

Go to scistarter.org/darksky and sign up for an account, or log in to your existing account. A SciStarter account helps you track your contributions and find relevant projects to participate in.

STEP 2

Follow the instructions to go to The Great Sunflower Project's website and watch a brief video about the project.

STEP 3

When you're ready to participate in the project, record the date and time that you begin.

STEP 4

Select a plant to monitor and record its scientific name, as well as how many flowers on the plant you're observing. If it is a plant with lots of flowers in a spike or bunch, you will need to count how many flowers are in that bunch.

STEP 5

Once you are settled, start your timer and record the number of visits by pollinators and try to identify the pollinators.

(Continued on reverse)

STEP 6

When you are done observing (try to participate for at least 5 minutes), enter the data on the Great Sunflower Project's website. Remember, you can find the "participate" button to be directed to this project's website at scistarter.org/darksky.

QUESTIONS?

Please visit scistarter.org/darksky-faq.

LOOKING FOR MORE?

Please visit scistarter.org/darksky-faq.

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