

Flower Dissection

Objective: To identify the different parts of a flower.

Time: 30 minutes.

Materials: Large, simple flowers such as lilies (contact a florist for free, wilted or unsaleable flowers), tape, construction paper, flower parts diagram (Plant Parts Diagram in the Appendix).

Allow each gardener to have his or her own flower. Show the gardeners the diagram of flower parts. Tell them that as you discuss each part, you want them to carefully remove that part from their flowers and neatly tape it to their construction paper.

First have them title their construction paper FLOWER PARTS. Explain that sepals protect the flower. Have them remove the sepal and tape it on their paper under the heading, "Sepal—protects flower." Tell them that petals also help protect the flower and attract pollinators. Again, have them carefully remove the petals and tape them under a heading that tells what the part is and what it does. Help them complete the flower dissection and label the pistil and stamen (both help create a seed) the same way.

Take the gardeners on a search outdoors to find a flower with parts they can identify.

