



## We believe that art ignites change.

Birds + Bees: A Trash Academy Project

Zine By: kuwa jasiri Indomela

Birds and Bees is a collaborative project with the community of Buist Park, Gamar Markarian, and Ron Whyte.

Lincoln Financial Mural Arts Center at the Thomas Eakins House

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#### Project partners

Lamar Gore, John Heinz Wildlife Refuge Manager Shari Hersh, Project Manager Kathleen Martin, Audubon Society PA project manager Carolina Gomez, lead artist Sarah Kolker, teaching artist Briana Dawkins, teaching artist

#### Trash Academy youth assistants

Paige, Breyani, Merletta, Timell



RON WHYTE and his relationship to the natural world.

#### **DEDICATION TO: community partners** (neighbors)

Donna Banks, Block Captain
Rhonda Davis, project artist
Christine Jones, gardener
Linda Emanuel, Tina Robinson, Lisa Young, Stephanie Peoples,
Nafes Bolden, Ariel Brown, Rose Rush, Margie Wilkins,
Leroy Watson and those from the neighbourhood who show up!

This zine is a basic interpretation of Pollinators and their vital role in our ecosystem.

# Contents

- the various types of pollinators
- how pollinators contribute to our existence
- how pollination happens, the mechanics of it
- the relationship between plants and pollinator species
- -Pollinators Natural Cornidor colouring page
- Endangered Pollinators
- Extinction

### LANGUAGE OF PAGES

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania is the traditional homeland of the Lenape Indigenous People

Unami is a language spoken by the Lenape people

Mod Pura Fé - Sacred Seed =

Welcome to the World Of Pollinators.

## TYPES OF POLLINATORS

Bees, Wasps, Beetles, Butterflies, Flies, Bats, Birds, Moths, Ants, other Small Mammals, Lemurs, Wind, Rain

Pollinators as a group transfer pollen between colourful flowers with dazzling patterns that give off seductive scents. There are an estimated 300,000 species of Pollinators.

Insect Pollinators are themselves the base food group for 90% of birds, lizards, spiders, and fish.



Leatherwing Beetles

Beetles are the first Pollinator to evolutionarily emerge.

1 kweti (kwuh-tee)



#### The FACTS are these:

- ~ Insects are more efficient than elemental Pollinators
- ~ Wind pollinates the majority of Grasses and Conifers
- ~ Pollen has a rough surface and is high in protein
- ~ Flowers can have ultra-violet color patterns that direct Pollinators



## These require pollination:



- $\sim \frac{1}{2}$  of the oils, fibers and raw materials
- ~ 1 of every 3 bites
- ~ 60% of wildlife diets
- ~ 75% of flowering plants
- ~ 100 government agricultural crops

## Why BEES are the most important?

The Bees main source of protein dense food is pollen.

Other Pollinators eat insects, small mammals and fruit

while pollen is more of a supplement to their diet.

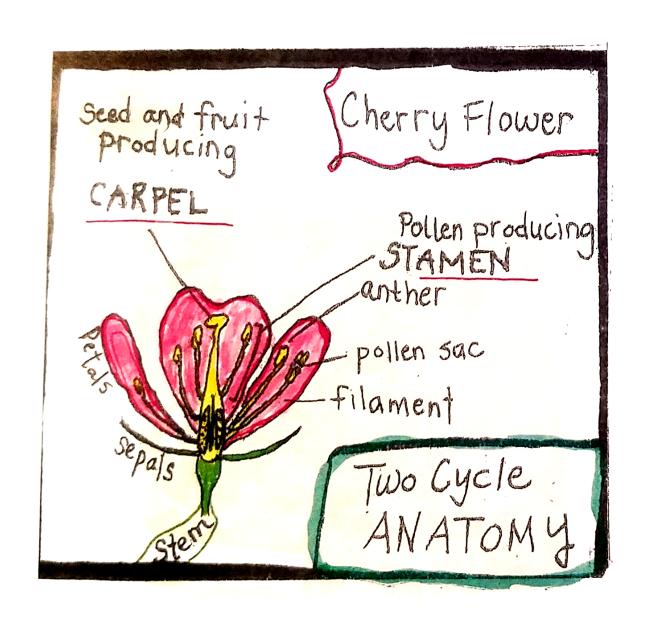


## POLLINATION HAPPENS IN THE FLOWER

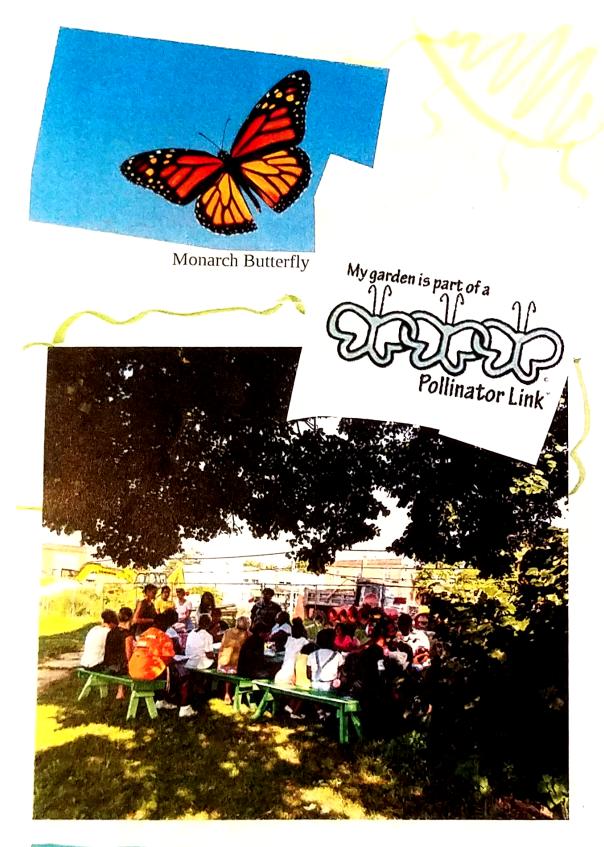
There are two cycles in the flower. The flower produces pollen grains in the stamens and fruit forms from the pollinated carpels. Once the carpel is fertilized the use of the petals and stamens are no longer needed and they wither.

This initiates the reproduction process and development of Seeds and/or fruit. The Pollinator-Flower relationship is a ever evolving natural process of specialized adaption.

3 naxa (nah-hah)







4 newa (nay-wah)

## BEYOND FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

Pollinators sustain plantlife that releases oxygen, supplies medicine, prevents hillside and waterway erosion, builds topsoil, captures carbon, and creates pristine habitat for all life forms.

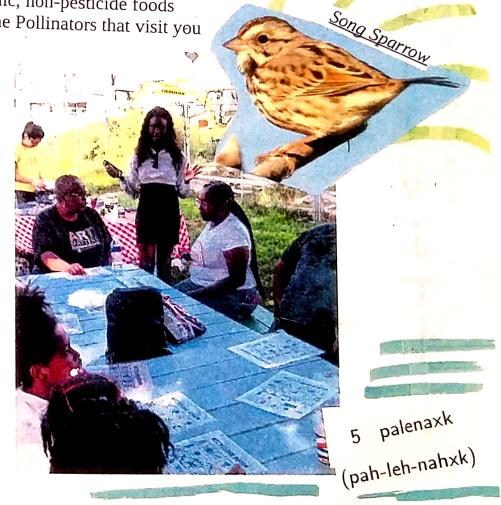
#### DID YOU KNOW?

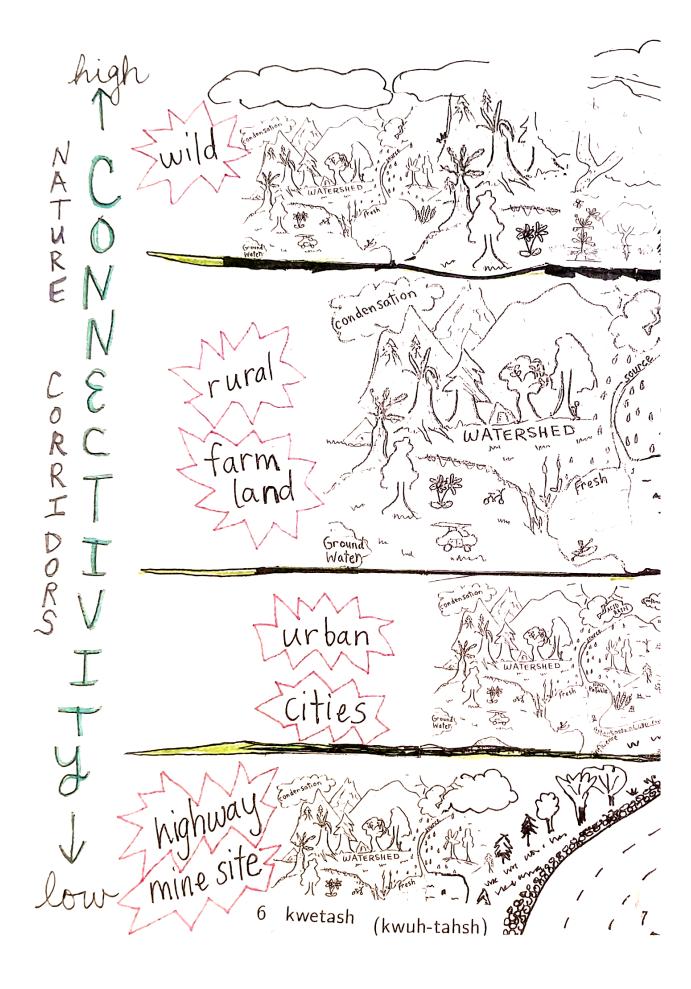
Pollinators are dying at an alarming rate. Due to the severe loss of habitat, natural corridors, native plants and the extreme use of pesticides, herbicides and landscape chemicals.

Of course global warming and bio-chem diseases are making life more strenuous for Pollinators. You can help! Do what you can:

- ~ Advocate for natural spaces in your town
- ~ Plant native species
- $\sim$  Spread this information
- ~ Join local initiatives that support Pollinators

~ Buy organic, non-pesticide foods  $\sim$  Identify the Pollinators that visit you







## BENEFITS OF HIGH CONNECTIVITY NATURAL CORRIDORS

Increases crop yield and biodiversity
Creates sustainable jobs and social interaction
Promotes healthy living and native habitat
Allows for education and recreation
Reduces flooding and erosion
Improves Water and Air quality
Recharges groundwater and species diversity
Creates micro-climates and nesting ground

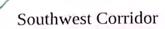


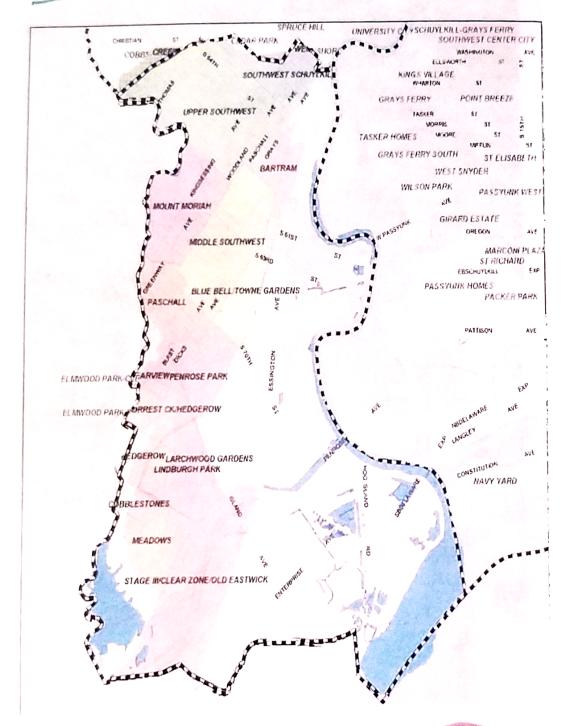
## Field Sparrow

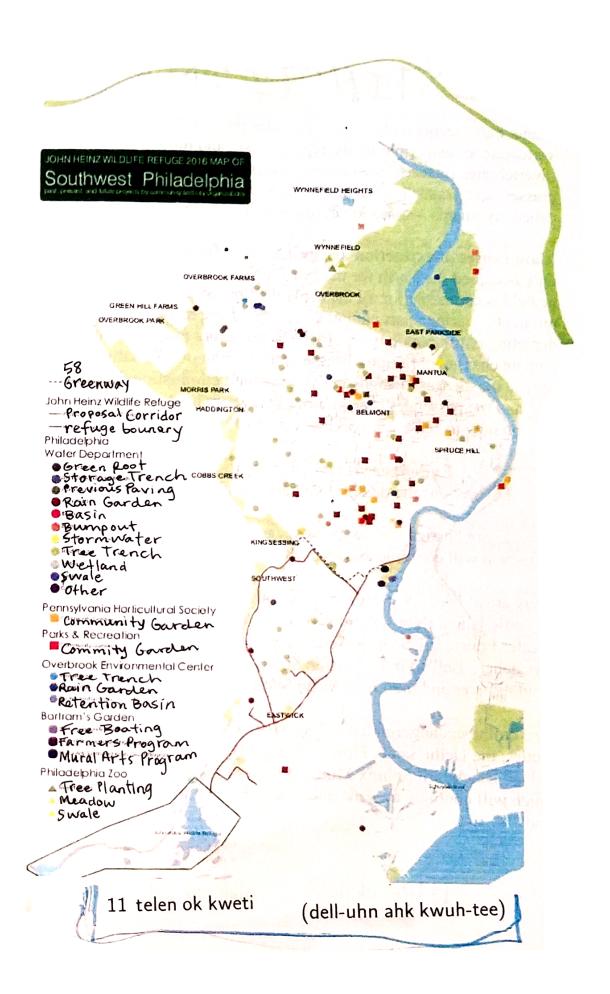


8 xash (xhash)









# ~ EXTINCTION ~

Planet Earth teems with life and includes thousands of species of vertebrate animals (mammals, <u>reptiles</u>, fish, and birds); invertebrates (insects, crustaceans, and protozoans); trees, flowers, grasses, and grains; and an array of bacteria, and algae, plus single-celled organisms—some inhabiting scalding deep-sea thermal vents.

Main causes of extinction are human interference. Humans have only occupied the Earth for the last 50,000 or so years. We need to be held accountable for all the ecological havoc during our brief moments: tearing apart natural corridors during resource extraction, depleting entire populations of whales and other marine mammals; climate change, pollution, disease, introduction of non-natives, several plastic trash islands in the ocean and eliminating the dodo bird and the passenger pigeon virtually overnight. Are we wise enough now to cease our reckless behavior?

Endangered: rapid decline in population

Extinction: the death of the last individual of the species

If we do not change the way we engage with the natural world, mass extinction will continue and end with us!

There are at least 18 species of birds on the endangered list that live on Turtle Island (North America). These birds are the Attwater's, Greater Prairie Chicken, Roseate Tern, Least Tern, Willow Flycatcher, Bell's Vireo, Seaside Sparrow, Northern Spotted Owl, Piping Plover and the Loggerhead Shrike.

Also on the endangered list is 7 species of bees, 12 species of beetles, the Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly, 19 species of butterflies, and the Blackburn Sphinx Moth. A total of 40 species of Pollinators which will continue to grow unless we shift the way we steward the land.

12 telen ok nisha

(dell-uhn ahk nee-shah)

There is some help and protection by federal, state, and tribal governments mainly implementing laws and the creation of parklands and reserves. Although this does support the strengthening of Pollinators we must remember that governments are the ones who, in the first place, decided to deploy harmful practices that led to mass extinction and genocide.





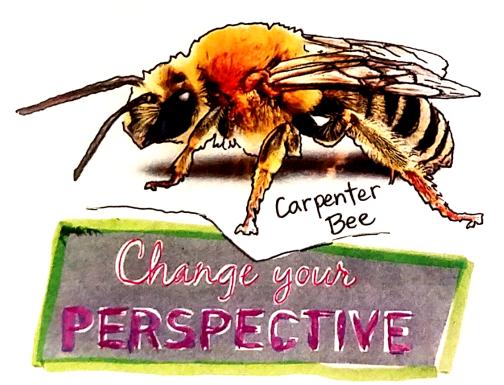
When you say, "I am going to throw this away"...where is away?

How can you change the way you interact with landscape to be more Pollinator friendly?

In what ways are women and nature connected?

What natural resources do you use?
What ways can you shift your consumption habits?
What native species can you plant in your community?
Who are the Indigenous tribes where you live?

## 95% OF NATIVE BEES DO NOT STING!





the grid <a href="https://www.gridphilly.com/grid-magazine/2019/4/30/the-missing-link-refuge-works-to-build-a-bridge-for-pollinatorsand-peace-for-city-dwellers">https://www.gridphilly.com/grid-magazine/2019/4/30/the-missing-link-refuge-works-to-build-a-bridge-for-pollinatorsand-peace-for-city-dwellers</a>

S POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP https://www.pollinator.org/pollinators

Attracting Native Pollinators Book

By: The Xerces Society and Storey Publishing

## **Organizational Partners**

John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum Audubon Society PA, Southwest CDC, Mural Arts Philadelphia Restored Spaces, Deep Green Philly

of the Pollinator Corridors of thiladelphia Presentation By Jefferson University

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY extension.psu.edu/conserving-wild-bees-in-pennsylvania

— We need to think and act more locally.





Be part of the solution

Smell the flowers

Let the Wind direct you

Explore natural habitats

Hum as you go through life

kuwa jasiri Indomela (the one/this one) Pronouns Founder of Authentic Creations

in Blantyre, Malawi

Artistic Apothecary. wordpress.com

kuwa jasiri (first name) is a genderqueer, multi-lingual, artistic community organizer who collectively educates with, and about the wonders of Nature through workshops, medicine making, writing, seed harvesting, and majick. Additionally that one participates in Indigenous solidarity, while excelling at compassionate communication, and grassroots accountability processes that bring about equality.