Before You Get Started:

Information for Parents

- Flowers can be grown in flower gardens, raised beds, and pots.
- Start plants from seed or buy transplants. Make sure the flower plant receives the amount of light and moisture needed to encourage beautiful flower development.
- Examples of good flowers for clover kids to grow include marigolds, zinnias, bachelor buttons, pansy and moss rose.

When You Finish This You Will Have Helped Your Child:

- Identify parts of the flower
- Identify what flowers need to grow
- How to exhibit your flowers at the fair

State Standards

SC2.3.1.b Identify the basic needs of living things (food, water, air, space, shelter)
SC2.3.1.c Identify external parts of plants and animals
SC2.3.1.d Observe and match plants and animals to their distinct habitats
SC2.3.2.b Describe how living things changes as they grow
The word “flower” is used to describe a number of different plants grown for their flowers. However, a flower is only one part of the plant.

**Parts of a Flower Plant**

- **Root**—The roots grow in the soil. They support the plant and take up nutrients, water, and oxygen plants need to grow.
- **Stem**—The stem is usually above the soil and has leaves (foliage) and flowers attached to it. The stem is a “pipeline” moving water and food within the plant. It also supports the leaves and flowers.
- **Leaf**—Leaves take materials from the air needed, with the help of sunlight, to make food for plant growth (photosynthesis).
- **Flower**—The flower develops from a bud on the stem. A fruit develops inside a mature flower and contains seeds from which new plants grow.
There are four things required for a plant to grow:

**Soil**
- Contains minerals, remains of decaying plants (organic matter), living organisms (earthworms) and nutrients.
- Nutrients, like nitrogen, are needed by plants to grow. When we fertilize, we are adding nutrients to the soil.

**Water**
- All plants need water to live.
- Plants take up water through their roots.
- Plants will wilt if they do not have enough water.

**Air**
- Plants take in carbon dioxide through their leaves. Carbon dioxide is the gas that people and animals exhale when they breathe.
- Plants give off oxygen which people and animals need to live.
- Plant roots also take in oxygen from the soil.

**Sun**
- The sun provides energy so plants can make their own food, through photosynthesis.
- When plants do not receive enough sunlight, they turn yellow and may eventually die.
To Exhibit Your Flowers at the Fair

- Check in the fairbook for how many stems are needed for your exhibit.
- Cut flowers in the evening or early morning.
- Select flowers that have little to no damage, such as holes made by insects.
- In the garden, place cut flowers into luke warm water. Then place them in the coolest room in the house.
- Remove leaves from the part of the stem that will be in water.

Books to Read with Your Children

*The Reason For a Flower* by Ruth Heller
*Parts of a Plant* by Wiley Blevins
*Counting in the Garden* by Kim Parker

Visit YouTube and Listen To These Books

*The Tiny Seed* by Eric Cale
[https://youtu.be/ls6wTeT2cKA](https://youtu.be/ls6wTeT2cKA)
*From Root to Flower* by Smart Kids
[https://youtu.be/fQd-InOmUL8](https://youtu.be/fQd-InOmUL8)

Questions????
What else do you want to learn about flowers/plants?
What part of the plant is used to take up water? (see what flowers need to grow)
In what part of the plant is food made? (see plant parts)
What do plants need?
What do plants need?
To grow tall?
To grow tall?

Plants need soil, water, air and sun.
Watch them grow!
Watch them grow!
Identify the Parts

Word Box
Flower  Stem
Leaves  Roots