



Name: _____

The Flower's Busy Day

Down in the garden, beneath the blue sky,
A colorful flower waves "Hello" to a fly.
But she isn't just sitting and looking so sweet,
She's a seed-making factory, working and neat!

The sepals were heroes when she was a bud,
Protecting her petals from cold and from mud.
Now petals are open, a bright, flashy sign,
To tell all the pollinators, "Come here to dine!"



High on the filament, a dusty surprise,
The anther holds pollen for bees' fuzzy thighs.
It's yellow and powdery, tickling the nose,
Of every winged helper that comes and that goes.

In the center, the pistil stands tall like a tower,
The most important part of the whole entire flower!
The stigma is sticky, like syrup or glue,
To catch all the pollen that's traveling through.

Once pollen is caught, it slides down the style,
A journey that takes just a very short while.
To the ovary "nest" at the bottom so deep,
Where tiny green ovules are currently asleep.

The flower then changes; her work is now done,
The petals fall off in the afternoon sun.
The ovary swells up, so round and so cute,
And turns from a flower into a fruit!





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1. The poem calls the flower a "seed-making factory." Why is this a good way to describe a flower?
 - a) Because flowers are made of metal and smoke.
 - b) Because flowers work hard to produce seeds for new plants.
 - c) Because flowers only grow inside big buildings.
 - d) Because flowers are very loud when they grow.

2. What happens at the very end of the poem after the work is done?
 - a) The petals get brighter.
 - b) The pollen travels up to the sky.
 - c) The ovary turns into a fruit.
 - d) The bees go back to sleep.

3. The poet calls the pistil a "tower" and the stigma "sticky, like syrup or glue." Why does the author compare these parts to things we know?
 - a) To show that the flower is made of kitchen supplies.
 - b) To suggest that the flower is very dangerous to touch.
 - c) To explain that flowers are used to make pancakes.
 - d) To help the reader visualize the height of the pistil and the texture of the stigma.

4. In the fifth stanza, what does the word "journey" refer to?
 - a) The bee flying back to its hive.
 - b) The movement of pollen down the style to the ovary.
 - c) The growth of the plant from a seed to a flower.
 - d) The gardener walking through the park.