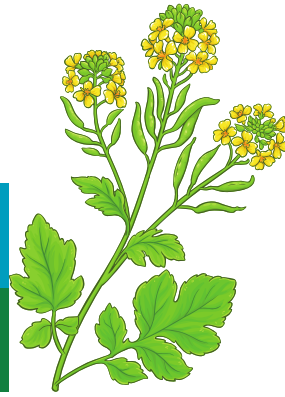


# Flower Power

## Artwork with flowers

Grade Levels: ALL

Standard: 2-PS1-1, K-ESS3-3



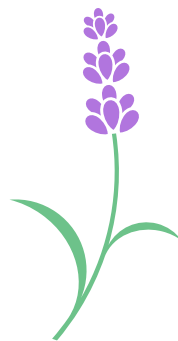
Wildflowers are in full bloom in California. While some flowers, such as the bright orange poppy, can't be picked, there are a number of colorful flowers outside that can be picked and used to create a beautiful work of art. Why can't we pick every flower we see? Certain species of wildflowers, especially those native to California, have an important role in protecting the environment, including our farms. Some of the important jobs that wildflowers do include:

- **Promoting healthy soil.** Their roots help lock nutrients into the soil.
- **Preventing erosion.** Flower roots help prevent topsoil from wearing away. On a farm, topsoil is important because it contains the most nutrients, which promotes healthy crop growth.
- **Provides habitat and food for beneficial insects**, especially those that pollinate such as the bumblebee.
- **Attracting beneficial birds to farmland.** Wildflower seeds and nectar attract birds that eat insects that are considered pests, such as aphids, caterpillars, and ants.

Make sure to only pick a few colorful flowers for this project. This will ensure that the animals and environment can still benefit from the important work that wildflowers do. *Use our guide of suggested flowers to pick, and search the internet for flowers that are acceptable to pick as well.*

### Suggested flowers to use for this project:

- Highway ice plant
- Roses
- Thistles
- Mustard
- Periwinkles
- Water hyacinth
- Spotted knapweed
- Common broom
- Spanish broom
- Cape ivy



### Materials:

- An assortment of colorful flowers (see our guide for suggestions)
- Duct Tape
- Paper
- A hammer
- A hard surface for pounding

# Flower Power

Artwork with flowers



## Step-by-Step Instructions

### Step 1:

Get some of the stickiness off of the tape by pulling it on and off of a piece of fabric, like a t-shirt (seen here). We don't want to tape too sticky or it will rip the paper we put the flowers on.



### Step 2:

Place the flowers and some flower petals on the adhesive side of the tape







### Step 3:

Press the tape with flowers on it onto the sheet of paper



### Step 4:

Use a hammer to press the flowers into the paper by hammering the tape into the paper. Gently pull the tape up when you have hammered each part of the tape into the sheet of paper.

