

Name: _____

FLOWER TO FRUIT

Most of the plants that we are familiar with are flowering plants. Another name for flowering plants is **angiosperms**. All flowering plants produce seeds. The seeds are produced by flowers. Flowers are an adaptation that is important to the success of angiosperms. The main parts of a flower are the **sepals**, **the petals**, **the pistil** and the **stamens**.

- The **sepals** are the green leaves that protect the flower while it is in the bud.
- **Petals** are the colourful parts that surround and protect the male and female parts of the flower.
- The **pistil** is the female part of the flower
- The **stamens** are the male part of the flower.

The female part of the flower produces the fruit and the seeds and the male parts produce pollen. Flowers help to ensure that pollen from the male part of the flower gets to the female part of the flower. This process is called pollination. **Pollination** is the first important step. Seeds have very tiny plants inside them. These grow into new plants and ensure that the group continues to survive. The **fruit** protects the seeds and provides them with food and minerals to produce a protective coat called the “seed coat”. When seeds are mature, the fruit ripens. Animals eat the fruit and scatter the seeds. This allows the seeds to grow into new plants in different places. The changes that occur from the time a seed grows into a new plant until that plant produces seeds, make up the life cycle of a plant.

