

Flower power



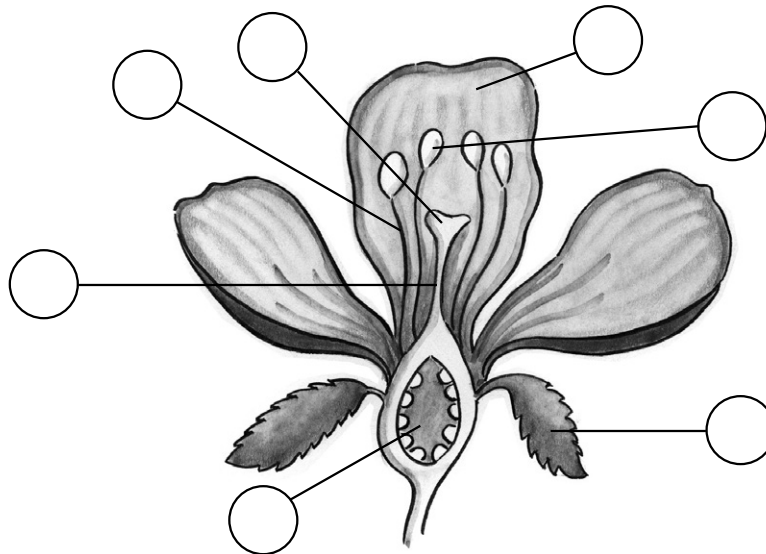
Background knowledge

Flowers are the reproductive organ of a plant. The petals of a flower are often brightly colored and scented to attract insects and other pollinators. The *stamen* is the male part of the plant. It is composed of the *filament* (a stalk) that holds the *anther*, which produces the *pollen*. Pollen is needed for plants to produce seeds. The *carpel* is the female part of the flower. The top part of the carpel contains the *stigma*. The *style* is the neck of the carpel. The *ovary* is the swollen area at the bottom of the carpel. The ovary produces the seeds. The *sepal* is a leaf that protects a flower as a bud.

Science activity

Write the correct numbers in the circles below to show the name of each part of the flower.

1 ovary 2 style 3 anther 4 filament 5 petal 6 sepal 7 stigma



Science investigation

Go on a flower hunt and take pictures of the different flowers that you find. If it is wintertime, use magazines or the Internet to collect pictures of different flowers. Develop a system to classify the flowers such as the number of petals or stamens they have. Describe your system of classification.



Flower power



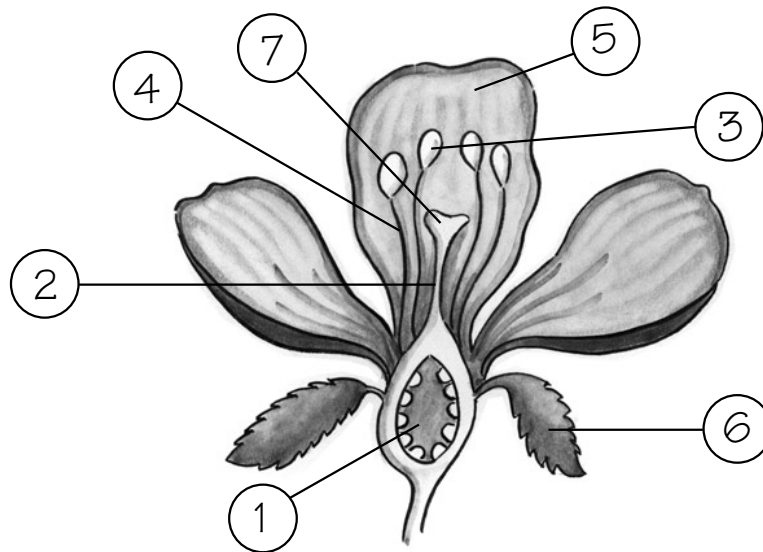
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Science investigation

The investigator should find that the stamens follow the same arrangement as the petals. In botany, flowering plants can be classified as dicots or monocots. Monocots have their petals in groups of 3 while dicots have their petals in groups of 4 or 5.

