

Flowering Plant Life Cycles

Grade 3 • SCIENCE • Students sequence and explain the major stages of a flowering plant's life cycle from seed through reproduction and new seeds. • Standards: 3-LS1-1

Read each question carefully and write your answer. Remember that a flowering plant's life cycle is a repeating pattern that goes around and around!

1. What is the first stage of a flowering plant's life cycle?
2. When a seed begins to grow and sprout, what is this stage called?
3. What part of a flowering plant makes the seeds?
4. Put these stages in order from first to last: mature plant, seed, seedling. Write your answer with commas between each stage.
5. A young plant with its first leaves is called a SEEDLING. What stage comes right before the seedling stage?
6. After a flower makes seeds, what happens to start the life cycle over again?
7. Number these stages in the correct order from 1 to 5: flower appears, seed germinates, mature plant grows, new seeds form, seedling grows. Write only the stage that should be numbered 3.
8. Why is a flowering plant's life cycle called a cycle instead of just a line?
9. A gardener plants a sunflower seed in spring. It germinates and grows into a seedling, then into a tall mature plant. In summer, a flower appears and makes seeds. What would happen next fall to continue the life cycle?
10. Explain why both the flower stage and the seed stage are important for the life cycle to continue.

Answer Key — Flowering Plant Life Cycles

For the teacher / parent. Do not distribute with the worksheet.

1. seed
2. germination
3. flower
4. seed, seedling, mature plant
5. germination
6. the seeds fall or spread and grow into new plants
7. mature plant grows (*The correct order is: seed germinates (1), seedling grows (2), mature plant grows (3), flower appears (4), new seeds form (5).*)
8. because it repeats over and over when new seeds grow into new plants
9. the seeds would fall to the ground and could germinate to grow new sunflower plants
10. the flower makes the seeds, and the seeds grow into new plants to start the cycle again