



Ted Alejandro, County Superintendent

San Bernardino County

Superintendent of Schools

Transforming lives through education



RIVERSIDE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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Thursday, May 7

2:00pm

Plants Behaving Badly, Part 2,
4th – 8th grade

Two groups of plants exhibit such intriguing behavior that a century and a half ago they attracted the attention of Charles Darwin. These same plants, the orchids and the carnivorous plants, still fascinate scientists today. This two-part series takes an in-depth look at these two plants.

Darwin's book "On the Origin of Species" shook the scientific world and far beyond. Yet it was his next book, devoted entirely to orchids, which filled in gaps and firmed up his revolutionary ideas. Orchids have an ethereal beauty, whether growing hundreds of feet up in a misty rainforest or along the verges of busy suburban roads. But their exotic flowers are shaped for just one purpose: to draw in pollinators.

After watching this episode, choose from the following questions and/or tasks to extend your learning

Question Box 1

- What is the most important thing I learned personally?
- What were some of the most interesting discoveries I made while working on this program?
- What are the two groups of plants and what is that intriguing behavior?
- What is the author trying to say through the TV program? What from the program makes you believe this?

Question Box 2

- What is the most important thing I learned personally?
- What were some of the most interesting discoveries I made while working on this program?
- What were some of my most powerful learning moments in the program and what made them so?
- How much did you know about the subject before we started? Explain.
- How do you feel about this program? What parts of it do you particularly like?
- Why was Darwin's theory about pollination revolutionary?
- Charles Darwin lived in the 1800's how was the world different in that time in history? Why would it be important to know about flowers and plants?

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Box 3 (Tasks)

- Create a powerpoint or visual product showing what you learned in this episode.
- Research the different orchids and draw two of your favorite. How are they alike and how are they different?

Box 4 (Enrichment)

- Bees have been very instrumental in pollinating flowers and trees. What do you know about bees? Learn more about them here: [Bees](#)
- Look for more information about flowers and insects to learn more. What is of most interest to you?

Box 5 (Extend/Real-Life)

- Have you ever thought about a career working with flowers?
- There is an entire industry based on flowers. Brainstorm a list of careers that would be needed to get flowers from seed to customers.
- Review the brochure at this link: https://endowment.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Floriculture_Brochure_FINAL.pdf
 - The flyer shows for distinct sectors in the floral industry. What are they?
 - Match the careers you listed to the careers on the brochure. What sector do you have the least number of jobs listed? Why do you think that is?
- All industries require careers that may not seem related at all, but are actually an important part of the successful functioning of the industry.
 - Is the sector in which you listed the least amount of careers important to the floral industry? Explain your answer.
- Share what you have learned with a family member and ask them to brainstorm a list of industries that need careers that seem unrelated to the industry.