FLOWER FLIP

Purpose of game: To learn about some of the ways flowers can be classified.

Target age group: Any age (You can adapt the game to suit younger or older players.)

Materials needed: Copies of these flower cards printed onto card stock, scissors, (laminating plastic if you want to make the cards durable)

Number of players: 2 to 6

Time needed to play: 15-45 minutes (depending on how many players and how many cards you use)

PLEASE NOTE: This game does not delve into the subject of simple versus compound flowers. Although this seems like a very easy concept, it is often difficult to determine whether a flower is simple or compound just by looking at it. For example, most students would guess that a daisy is a simple flower. It looks like a basic flower. However, each petal is actually a separate flower, making it a compound flower. In many cases you must have botanical knowledge about the flower in order to make the determination of whether it is simple or compound. Therefore, this aspect of flower classification has been omitted. If you would like to add this feature to the game, cut some additional cards and add two "simple" cards and two "compound" cards.

How to prepare:

Copy or print the flower cards onto heavy card stock paper. If you don't have a good color printer, you can copy the digital file that you downloaded from the website onto a "jump stick" and take it to a store that does color printing. They will be able to print the cards onto heavy card stock paper. (The professionally printed cards will look really beautiful.) The reason that there are 12 flowers per page is to keep the printing cost as low as possible. Bigger cards might have been better in some ways, but it also would have increased the cost of making the game.

Laminate the cards with plastic if you want to make them durable. Cut the cards apart.

How to play the game:

Shuffle the word cards and put them into a stack. The printed sides should face down, like a "draw pile." Put this pile in the center of the playing area. (Choose the word cards that are appropriate for your players. If you are practicing reading skills, you might want to omit the harder words. If you are practicing botanical knowledge, include the difficult cards. You can add more botanical terms if you have studied some that are not included in these game cards.)

Determine how many picture cards will be in play. You can distribute all the cards equally among the players, or you can choose to give each player 5 or 10 or more, depending on the attention span of your players and the amount of time you have to play.

The players should lay their picture cards in front of them face up. There is no need for secrecy in this game. The goal of the game is to get all of your picture cards flipped over.

The players take turns drawing a card from the word stack. The drawn cards will be for everyone to play, not just the player whose turn it was to draw a card. The drawn card is laid down so that all players can see it. Then the players look at their picture cards to see if they have a flower that matches the word. If they find a match, they turn that card over. ONLY ONE CARD CAN BE FLIPPED

PER TURN. If a player has more than one picture card that matches with the drawn word card, he must choose just one card to turn over. (If you are working with younger players and this rule will cause the game to go on too long (past their attention span) you may allow them to flip all cards that qualify.)

If you use all the word cards before the end of the game, just recycle them. If you find that certain word cards come up too frequently or too infrequently for your liking, you can remove cards or add duplicates, accordingly.

The first player to get all his cards flipped over wins the game. If you would like to downplay competition, just announce that the game is over as soon as all players have their cards flipped.

It is up to the administrator of the game to make decisions regarding questions players might have about a flower fitting into a category.   For example, a botanist might see a flower as definitely trumpet-shaped, but a child might point out that the top of the trumpet is saucer-shaped and therefore the flower should be able to be flipped over if the saucer card is drawn. Either way is fine, as long as everyone plays by the same set of rules.   (The "flowers that look like animals" category will be one of the more controversial ones. The shrimp flower and the bird of paradise flower are obvious, but does the joint-vetch look like a turkey? Just the fact that this question is under discussion means that they are learning, so it really doesn't matter what is decided. The point is that they are observing flowers a lot more closely than they would have otherwise.)

EXTRA IDEAS:

1) A MEMORY MATCHING GAME
You can also use these cards to play a memory match game. Choose the word cards you want to use, then find a matching picture card for each. Shuffle them, then lay them out, face down. The players take turns flipping over two cards to see if they can find a match.

2) PRACTICE ALPHABETIZING
Lay out all the cards and have your student(s) put them in alphabetical order.

3) GUESS THE CATEGORY
Put all the word cards in a draw pile face down, and all the flower cards laid out in neat rows face up. Let each player take a turn choosing a random card from the word card pile. The player should not show the word card to anyone. The player then chooses three to five picture cards that demonstrate the word card and lays those pictures in a separate row. The other players look at those chosen cards and try to determine what the category is.

white	red	yellow
pink	orange	blue or purple
white	red	yellow
pink	orange	blue or purple
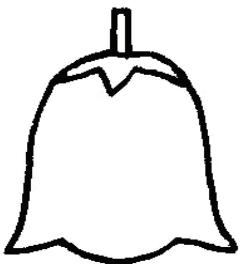
bell-shaped (campanulate)	**butterfly-shaped** (papilionaceous)	**trumpet-shaped**
star-shaped (stellate) (5 or more petals)	**umbrella-shaped** (umbellate)	**cross-shaped** (cruciform)
long and skinny (salverform)	**cup-shaped**	**urn-shaped** (urceolate)
tube-shaped (tubular)	**lip-shaped** (labiate)	**saucer-shaped**
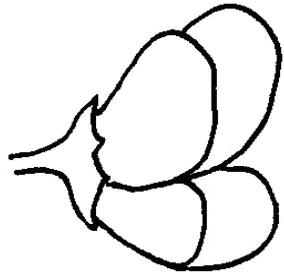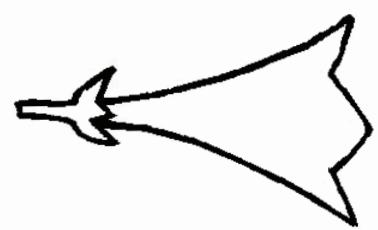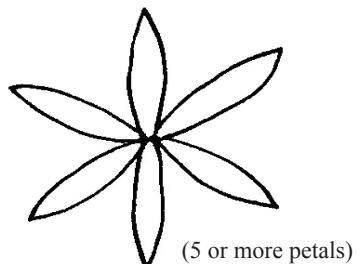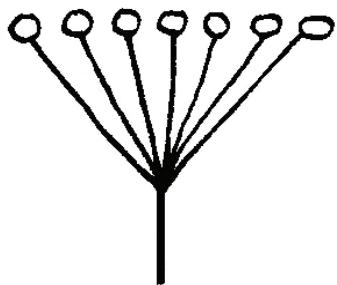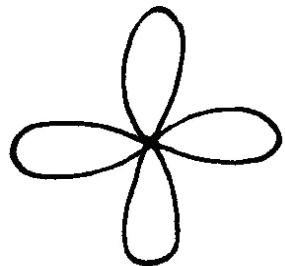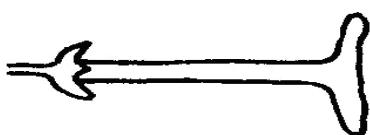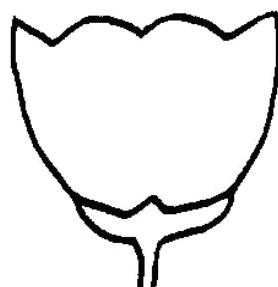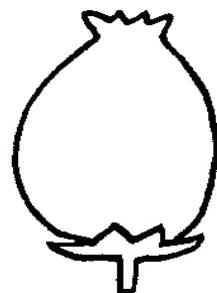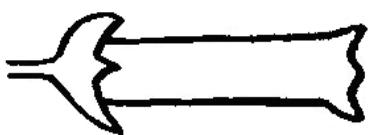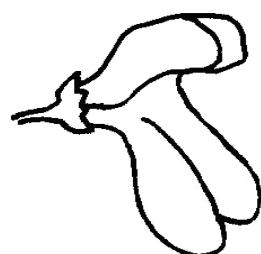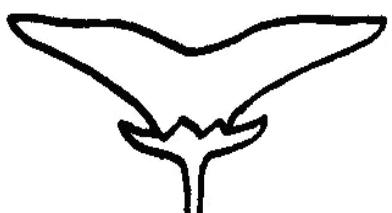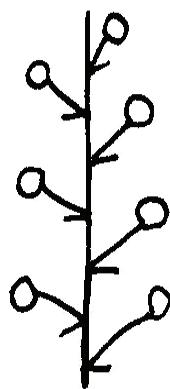
spire	raceme	has a spadix
cone-shaped	ball-shaped	button-shaped (or has central disk with this shape)
4 petals	5 petals	6 petals
more than a dozen petals	can't see individual petals	petals are thin as strings
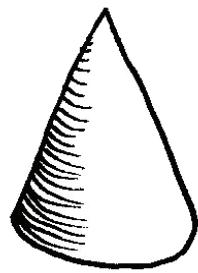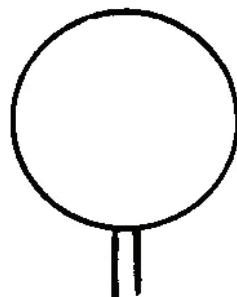
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"regular" (has radial symmetry)	**"regular"** (has radial symmetry)	**"irregular"** (has bitaleral symmetry)
"irregular" (has bitaleral symmetry)	solid color	more than one color
shaped like an animal	looks like a hanging lantern	stamen are not visible
pointed petals	main flower is made of smaller flowers	petals have spots or stripes
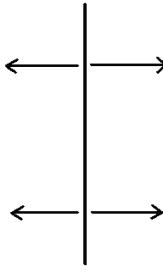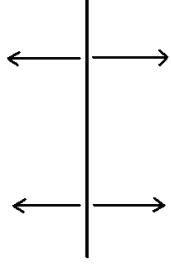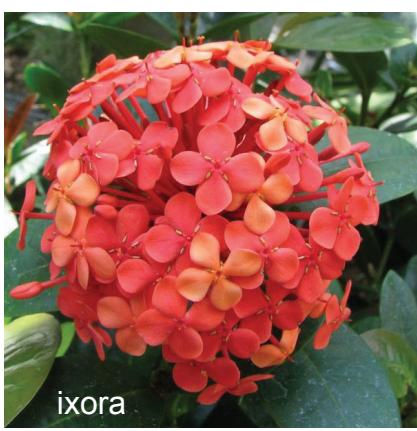
columbine	ixora	lantana
coneflower	zinnia	peony
jewel weed	yellow tiger lily	"bird of paradise" flower
feather celosia	firecracker flower	yucca
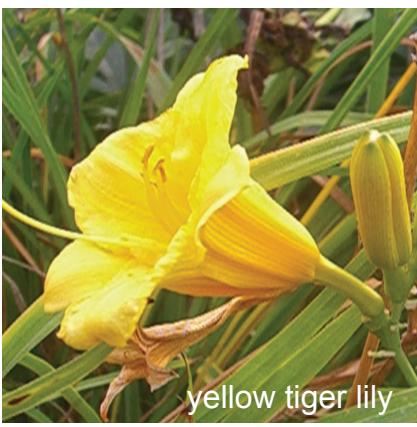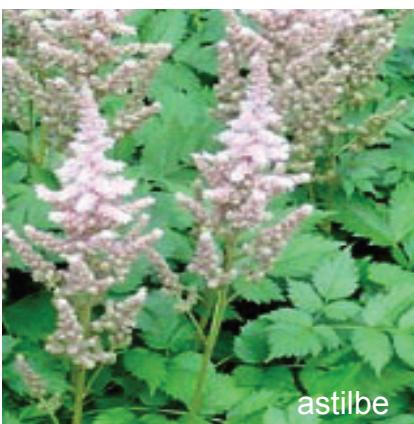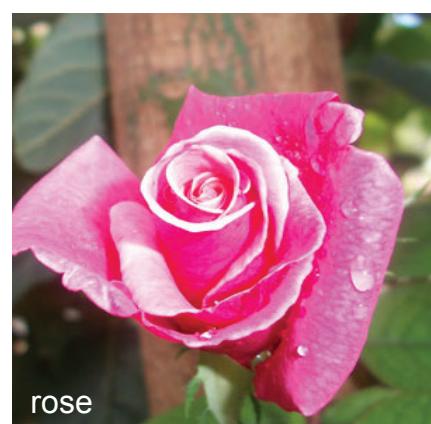
astilbe	fuchsia	rose
plumbago	"brass buttons"	lobelia
"bleeding hearts"	buttercup	aster
daffodil	cala lily	daisy
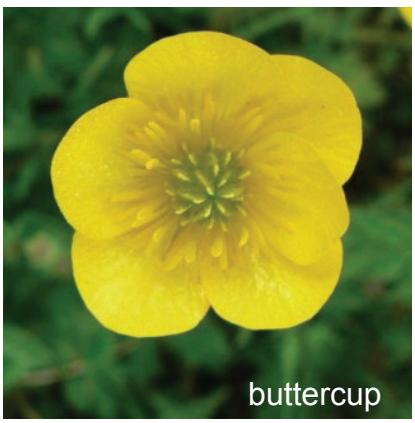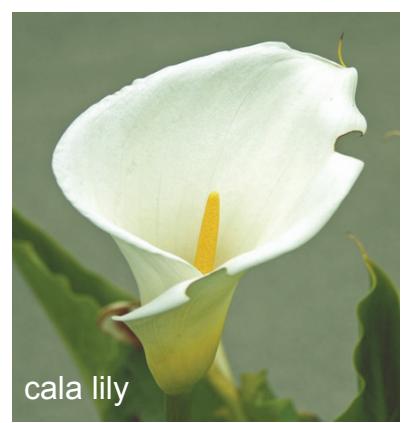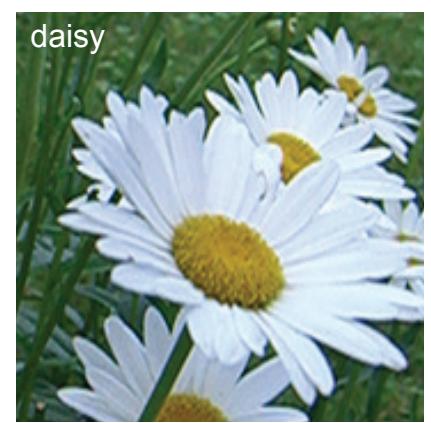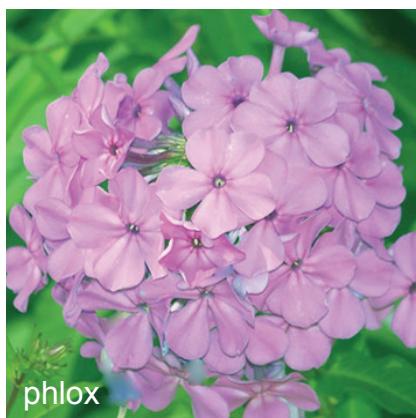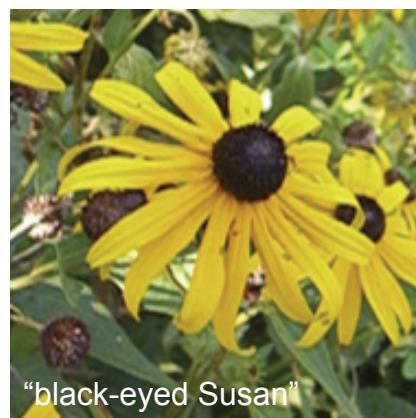
marigold	phlox	"black-eyed Susan"
grape hyacinth	vinca	nasturtium
foxglove	hydrangea	snapdragon
lily of the valley	primrose	cactus flower
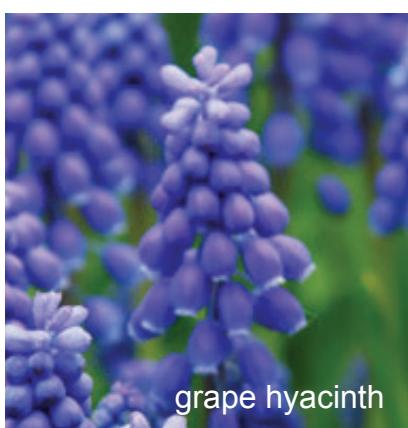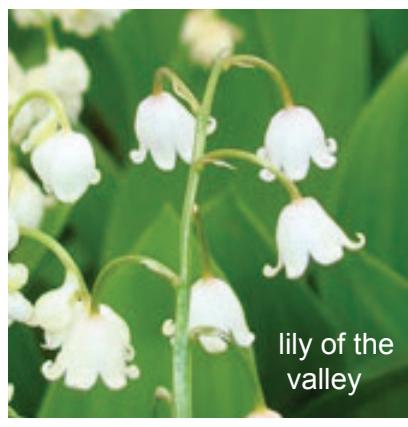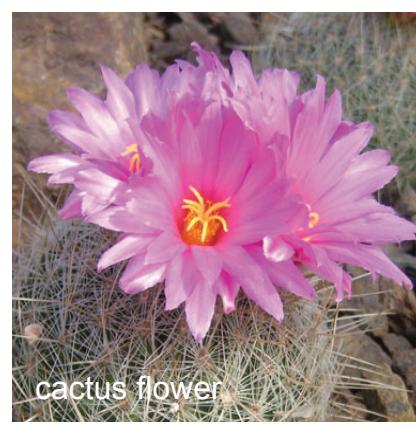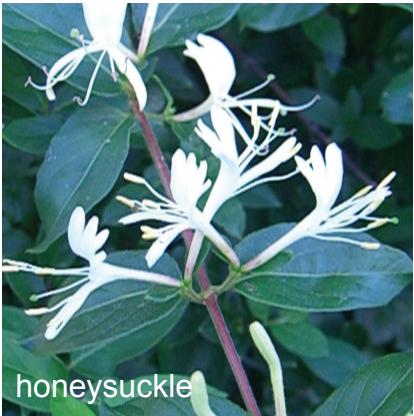
honeysuckle	shrimp flower	geranium
coreopsis	Jack-in-the-pulpit	green pepper
begonia	flossflower	water lily
joint-vetch	red salvia	yarrow
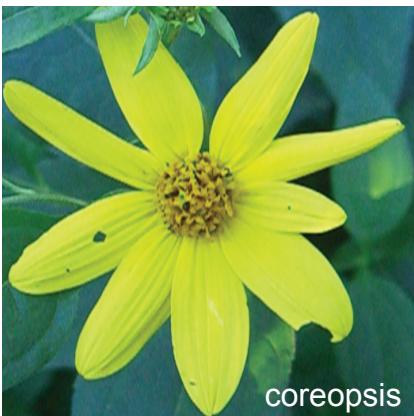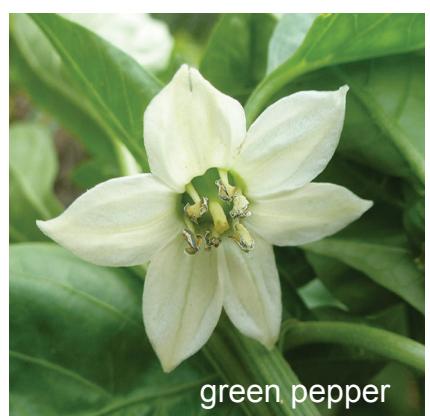
anthurium	hosta	dahlia
Queen Anne's lace	pansy	green bean
potentilla	pink globe amaranth	strawberry
thistle	bush clover	sunflower
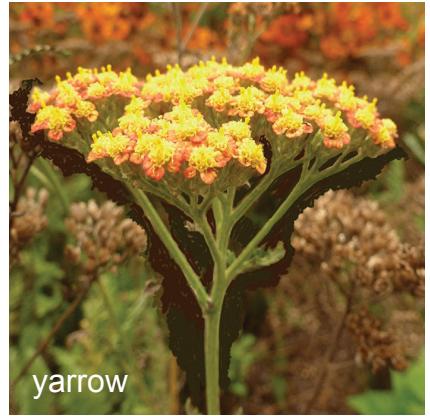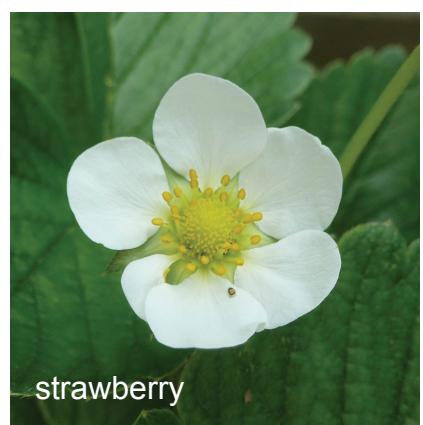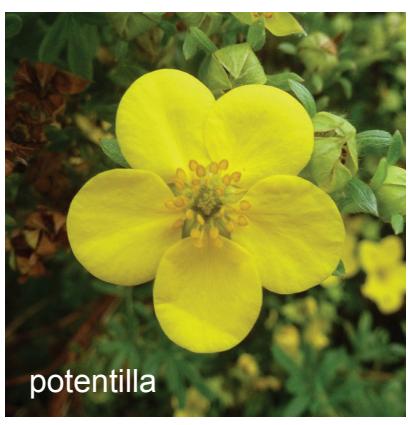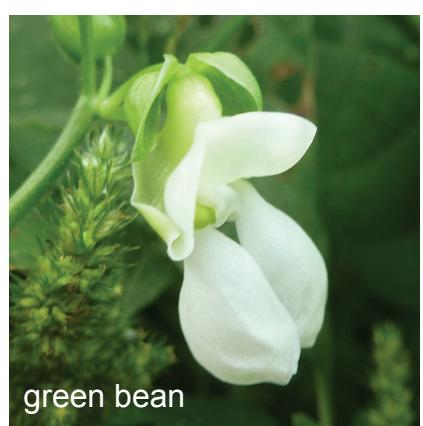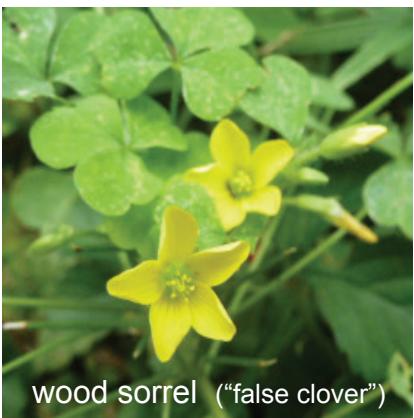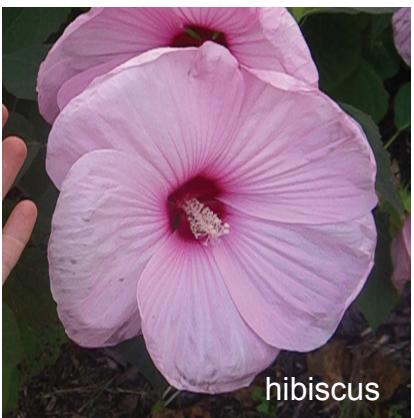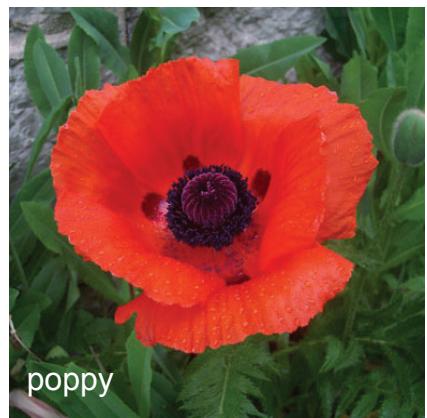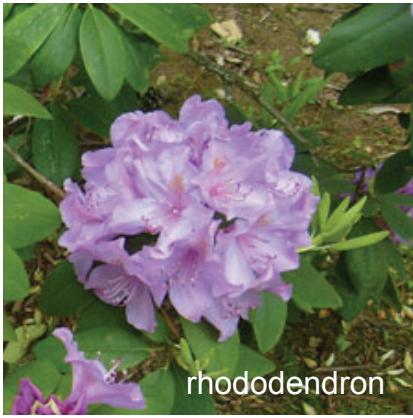
wood sorrel ("false clover")	tomato	trumpet vine
hibiscus	wild carrot	poppy
bearded iris	rhododendron	white clover
azalea	petunia	day lily