

## 2.2. New training and professional development models

### SP - (18572) - KNOWLEDGE ABOUT POLLINATING ANIMALS IN INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING

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#### Short Abstract

Plants are one of the most common scientific topics developed on throughout schooling. However, their learning is not as simple as it seems, and sometimes there are difficulties associated with learning concepts and processes related to this topic, such as nutrition or plant life cycles (Anderson et al., 2014; Cherubini et al., 2008). Nowadays, pollination and specifically the loss of pollinators also constitutes a socioscientific issue that can sometimes be complex for students (Puig and Gómez, 2021). For this reason, this study analyzes which groups of animals and specific animals that carry out pollination are recognized by future teachers. For this purpose, a qualitative methodology was used with a sample of 88 early childhood education and primary education preservice teachers. Data were collected through a questionnaire. The main results show that all the prospective teachers analyzed recognize insects as the main group of pollinators and almost 75% of the participants consider that there are pollinating birds. Approximately 50% of the participants highlight some mammal or arachnid as an animal involved in pollination meanwhile more than 80% of the teachers analyzed reject fish as pollinating animals. Regarding the specific animals most highlighted by our participants, we found bees and wasps, bats and hummingbirds. We detected some difficulties in pointing out some animals as pollinators and in classifying the different animals, for example, there are some participants that pointing out clownfish as pollinators or identifying hummingbirds as mammals instead of birds. For all these reasons, the importance of pollinators for the correct balance of ecosystems should be studied in greater depth during the initial training of teachers so that they can correctly carry out their work as teachers with their future students in pre-school and elementary school. For future lines of research, it is recommended to study the knowledge that teachers in training have about other pollinating agents.

#### References

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