

Unit  
5

## Wonders of Nature



You will learn about

- ❖ Some wonders of nature - plants and animals
- ❖ Colours and fragrance of flowers



## Wonders of Nature - Plants



Nature is full of wonders. Shall we explore some of them?

## Lily

Why does water not stay on the leaf of the lily?



The leaf of a lily has a **waxy coat** on the **upper surface**. It has a notch too. Water does not stay on the leaf because of the **notch** and the **waxy coating**.

Notch



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## Nuts under the soil

Usually nuts are seen on the stem part of the plant. In **groundnut** plants, the nuts are under the soil.

Nuts are also called seeds.



## Kurinji



The **Kurinji** or **Neelakurinji** shrub is found in the **Nilgiri** mountains in Tamil Nadu.

The flowers of the Neelakurinji **bloom** only once in **12 years**.

They are **purple blue** in colour. **Nilgiri**, the **Blue Mountain**, gets its name from these flowers.

### Touch Me Not Plant

Have you seen this plant? It is found in many places.

It is a small herb. When you touch the **leaves** of this plant, they **close**. So it is called the 'Touch Me Not' plant. The leaves open a few minutes later.



Leaves open



Leaves closed

### Calotropis - Erukku

Calotropis is a shrub. It has a group of **waxy flowers**. Its flowers are either **white** or **lavender in colour**. It is also known as the '**Crown Flower**' since it looks like a **crown**.



Draw and colour the Erukku leaf.





## Colour and Fragrance of Flowers



Flowers have beautiful colours and many have fragrance. Insects are friends of the flowers. They are attracted by the colour and smell of flowers. Flowers have nectar. **Insects and birds** come to **suck** the **nectar** from the **flowers**.



Many of the flowers that **bloom at night** are **white in colour** and they have a wonderful **fragrance**.



Night- Flowering Jasmine  
(Pavazhamalli)



Spanish Cherry  
(Magizhampoo)



Jasmine  
(Malligai)

Many of the flowers that **bloom during the day** have **attractive colours** and are less fragrant.



Butterfly Pea  
(Sangu Poo)



Jungle Flame  
(Vetchi Poo)



Periwinkle  
(Nithiyakalyani)