

The Apple Tree: From Flowers to Fruit to Cider **Grade Levels: K-1 & 2-3**

The crisp days of fall are time for cider making. Using apples we have picked from Hildene's trees, students wash and press the fruit into sweet cider. After the cider has been pasteurized, students sample the delicious juice. To appreciate the development of apple fruit, students explore the essential role of pollinators and dissect a simple flower to discover how its parts contribute to the process of pollination. Through investigation and pantomime, the life cycle of the apple tree, the function of its parts and how it changes through the seasons will also be examined.

Next Generation Science Standards Addressed:

Kindergarten

K-LS1-1. Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive.

K-ESS3-1. Use a model to represent the relationship between the needs of different plants or animals (including humans) and the places they live.

First Grade

1-LS1-1. Use materials to design a solution to a human problem by mimicking how plants and/or animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow and meet their needs.

Second Grade

2-LS2-2. Develop a simple model that mimics the function of an animal in dispersing seeds or pollinating plants.

Third Grade

3-LS1-1. Develop models to describe that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles but all have in common birth, growth, reproduction and death.