

# Agriculture Adventures for Families

## How Sunflowers Got Their Name



On sunny days, immature flower buds of some sunflowers track the sun across the sky from east to west. As the flower bud matures and blossoms and the sunflower heads get heavier during seed production, the stem stiffens, and the flower becomes fixed facing the eastward direction.

Sunflowers are in the plant genus Helianthus and include about 70 species in the Aster family. All but three are native to North America.

The genus name, Helianthus, comes from the name of sun god Helios in ancient Greek mythology. Helios was one of the Titans. He is often portrayed as driving a four-horse chariot across the sky daily. In ancient Roman mythology, Helios is known Sol.



## Sunflower Fun Facts

Sunflowers grow best with about 6 to 8 hours of sun a day, but more is better

Sunflowers typically have between 1,000 to 1,400 florets and potential seeds

Ukraine is the largest sunflower producer in the world, followed by Russia

South Dakota is the largest producer of sunflowers in the United States, followed by North Dakota and Texas



On average, sunflowers can grow as tall as 16 feet

The petals around the outside of a sunflower are called ray florets

Disc florets in the middle, where the seeds develop, have both male and female organs, and each produce a seed. They can self-pollinate or take pollen transported by insects or blown by the wind

Source: AgHires, <https://blog.aghires.com/sunflower-facts/>

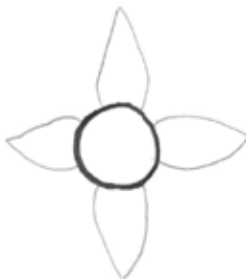
Source: The University of Illinois Extension, <https://extension.illinois.edu/view/blog-category/92/596>

## How to Draw a Sunflower

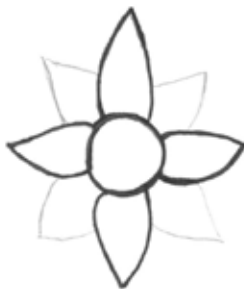
Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4



Step 5



Step 6



## September Word Search

S I N Y Y S W A S M X T F P I  
A T V V E D W A D O Q D L R N  
C X C E F T U B Y K K M O O G  
O H D E U R E B C U Y T R D B  
I S X G S D A A P E S U E U B  
Z R D C N N T V S M A Y T C C  
T K J I S N I E O T S U S T S  
I Q H W D A M C S F B U D S I Z  
W F G L Z A S L M E T S N O C  
S V P I A O O B S H R F X N W  
L D L P L W P O L L I N A T E  
A L Y B E N H B N S O I O H A  
T L V R T K U X R N Z P L Q Y  
E A K I T M E S Q L R P Q X R  
I P T B M K X H Y J V P W O R G

Blossoms

Buds

East

Florets

Flower

Grow

Insects

Petals

Plant

Pollinate

Production

Seeds

Stem

Sunlight

Tall

Wind

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_

(Membership # is located on front of paper)

If you were to win, check your preference:

\_\_\_ Beggar's Pizza GC \_\_\_ HRI GC \_\_\_ Movie Tix

(If a choice is not made, movie tickets will be sent)

Deadline is the 20th of each month.

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Choices include a \$25 Beggar's Pizza Gift Card, a \$25 Home Run Inn Gift Card, OR 2 AMC Movie Tickets.

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Mail to: Cook Co. Farm Bureau

Ag Adventures Word Search

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Fax to: 708-579-6056

Email to: FBcooperator@gmail.com

Complete and submit an entry every month all in 2022 and your name is automatically entered into an "End of Year" drawing for a gift basket full of ag themed goodies.

Good luck!

## Last Month's Word Search Winner Is...

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