

## Research Questions:

Discussion or research could arise around the following questions:

*\*points in italics indicate sample answers*

- 1) What would happen in a world without seeds?
- 2) What is cross-pollination and why do seeds need it?
- 3) Are seeds the only way to grow a new plant?
- 4) Edible seeds: what do we eat? Why can we eat some and not others?
- 5) What are GMO seeds?
- 6) Who controls the world's seeds?
  - a) *Four main companies own most of the world's seeds*
- 7) Who uses seeds and why?
  - a) *Trees to reproduce; animals to eat; humans to eat; humans for the aesthetic, ie. gardens; soil in certain areas where erosion threatens because the roots keep soil in place*
- 8) What are examples of seeds? What are the needs of a seed?
  - a) *Parts of a seed: seed coat, food storage, and embryo*
- 9) How do seeds take advantage of the principles of flight, or other design strategies to disperse? Why do they need to disperse?
- 10) What does it take to germinate a seed?
- 11) How do animals help disperse seeds?
  - a) *Eating berries and pooping out the seeds*
  - b) *Mechanisms that attach them to fur. Think burrs if you've ever had to pick them out of a dog's fur.*