Focus Card

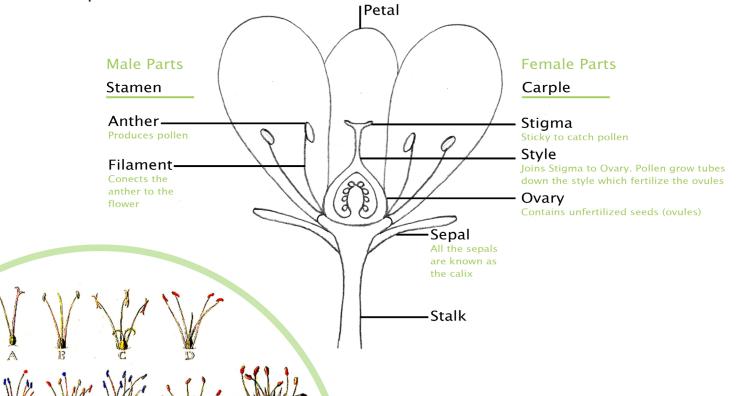
The Gilbert White FIELD STUDIES CENTRE

Carl Linnaeus

Born in 1707 Carl Linnaeus was interested in plants from an early age. By the age of 8 he had the nick name 'the little botanist'.

Linnaeus created a method of classifying nature in to groups. He divided them into Kingdoms (plants animals and minerals) then classes, orders genius and finally species. His binomial naming system, made up of the genus and species, greatly simplified the Latin names at the time.

He found attributes which he could use to group each kingdom. For plants he used flower the arrangement of male and female flower parts.



Linnaeus's classification system, though much adapted, is still in use to this day.

Images according to Linnaeus's sexual systems 24 classes illustrated by Georg Dionysius Ehret. Adapted from "Methodus Plantarum Sexualis in sistemate naturae descripta" (Leiden 1736)