

Why Make a Bracelet?

- Because it's beautiful, fun to make and wear, and might just help you to remember **Coevolution**...
It might help you to recall how flowering plants and the pollinating and dispersing animals have **coevolved** on our sunny planet over hundreds of thousands of years.

The **yellow** in your bracelet symbolizes the **Sun's Energy (Electromagnetic Energy)**.

The **greens** symbolize the **photosynthesizing Plants**.

The other colors symbolize the **Pollinating and Dispersing Animals** -

from the **Blue-black Swallowtail Butterflies** to **Ruby-Throated Hummingbirds** to Humans Beings!

Working together, in a harmonious pattern, they all create something marvelous and vital!

Making a bracelet can show you:

how **Energy** can rearrange **Matter**;

how **Potential Energy** (stored as Chemical Energy) in your body from the food that you've eaten, can be transformed into **Kinetic Energy** that moves the yarn;

how people have used various fibers to make rope for thousands of years;

how YOU, working with a friend, can create something amazing, worthwhile, and beautiful - if you just listen and watch attentively, choose wisely and direct your muscles with skill;

how **Self-Assembly** and **Emergence** operate. (These are two important principles in 21st Century biological thinking.)

Additionally, this craft introduces you to the spiral form so important in the cells of most living beings.

(An extended 3D, double spiral (known as a double helix) is the fundamental shape of our **DNA**

-the genetic material so significant in physical heredity.

DNA has been continually passed along and embellished during some 3.5 billion years of evolution.)

A circle (like your bracelet) can also symbolize Life without end. And that, in some ways, is what happens when the **symbiotic, coevolved partnerships** of flowering plants and animals work out well, as they have, in general, for over 125 million years. The animals and plants have coevolved capacities that help them both to continue their life cycles through time. In pollination partnerships, the plants provide food energy to the animals (in the form of calorie-rich nectar and extra pollen) while the mobile animals deliver the plant's pollen to the correct flowers, thereby helping the plants produce seeds (Pollination). In dispersal partnerships, the animals receive energy by eating the fruit around the seeds and then they carry the seeds to new places where the seeds can grow (Dispersal). These partnerships exemplify the importance of **cooperative relationships (symbioses)** in the vast world of Nature.

When you know about these, you can better appreciate the wondrous tapestry of Life in which you yourself are a very important co-creator, especially in this time of restoration - after our species' foolish fury of over-industrialization. As Biologist Robin Kimmerer explains, "We are bound in a covenant of reciprocity [with Earth], a pact of mutual responsibility to sustain those who sustain us: plant breath for animal breath, ...[flowers and pollinators], berries and birds..." p. 282 - 283, Braiding Sweet Grass.

Enjoy your Bracelet & Do What You Can

To Continue the Partnerships between Flowering Plants & Pollinators & Dispersers!

A Few things you might do ~

Plant Food & Flower Gardens for People, Butterflies, & Migrating Songbirds;

Promote Pollinator Conservation; Avoid the use of Toxic Synthetic Pesticides;

Support Environmental Protection Legislation & Education, Raise Honeybees, and

Eat Organically-Grown Foods from Diversified, Local Farms!