

5: TULIP MANIA

Gallery 2

This painting shows a tulip field in Holland, a place famous for these flowers.

Look at the painting. How would you describe the weather?

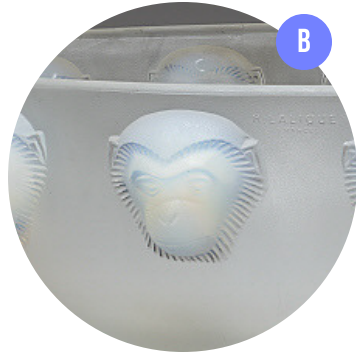
Did you know that the wind is also a pollinator, spreading pollen from pollinizing flowers to other flowers?

Tulips are about to bloom locally in the Berkshires. Tulip pollen is often very visible. When you see one, look carefully inside the flower and you will be able to see the pollen, (the powdery stuff).



Tulip Fields at Sassenheim, Claude Monet, 1886

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It's not just bugs, bats and wind that act as pollinators. Lots of other creatures transfer pollen when they eat flowers or brush up against plants —birds, rodents, deer, and many more. In tropical climates, monkeys and lizards act as pollinators too. The animal benefits because it gets a tasty nectar snack and the plant benefits because its pollen is spread, allowing the species to grow far and wide.

Did you know that when both the animal and the plant benefit it's called a *symbiotic* relationship?

A) *Two Handled Cup with Cover* by Paul de Lamarie, 1742/1743 (Burrows Gallery #20)

B) "Madagascar Bowl" by Rene Lalique, c.1928 (Lauzon Glass Study Gallery)

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