**Mushroom flowers**

**Follow these instructions to take a closer look at a mushroom and make pretty images using its spores.**

* Safety: Some mushrooms can be poisonous. Always wash your hands thoroughly after picking wild mushrooms. Never, ever eat plants or fungi you cannot identify.
* **You will need**
* Mushrooms (from the greengrocer or supermarket, or wild ones from your garden)
* A4 black and/or white cardboard
* knife or a blade – get an adult to help you

**What to do**

1. Look at the underside of your mushrooms. If they're a dark colour, such as brown or black, use white card. If they're a light colour, such as orange or yellow, use black card.
2. Place your sheet of card somewhere away from any breezes.
3. Carefully pluck the stem from your mushroom, or use the knife to trim it.
4. If the edge of the mushroom curls underneath, trim it back just enough to expose the mushroom's underside.
5. Place the mushroom onto the card, bottom-side down.
6. Wait a day.
7. Carefully lift the mushroom from the card and look at the flower shape it left behind.

