# Nature's Pollen Genius: The Incredible BunchBerry Dogwood Plant

Name: ANSWER KEY Date: _____

## Vocabulary Words: Match the definition to each word.

1. The bunchberry dogwood plant grows in northern spruce forests.
2. To spread its pollen, the plant uses a mechanism similar to a catapult.
3. The pollen is launched at about 2,400 times the force of gravity.
4. Scientists needed special high-speed cameras to see the pollen launch.
5. The flowers of the bunchberry dogwood are only about 0.1 inches off the ground.

Word Bank: catapult, northern, high-speed, 0.1, 2,400

## Multiple Choice: Choose the correct answer from the choices for each question.

1. What does the plant's pollen-launching mechanism remind people of?
   a) A slingshot
   b) A trampoline
   c) A rocket ship
   d) A catapult

2. How fast does the pollen launch happen?
   a) As fast as a snail
   b) A fast as a cheetah
   c) As fast as you can walk
   d) Faster than the blink of an eye

3. What special equipment did scientists use to study the plant's pollen launch?
   a) Microscopes
   b) Telescopes
   c) X-ray machines
   d) High-speed cameras

4. What is the purpose of the plant's pollen catapult?
   a) To scare away animals
   b) To water the plant
   c) To make the plant grow taller
   d) To help pollinate other flowers

## Discussion & Reflection: Answer the following questions in complete sentences

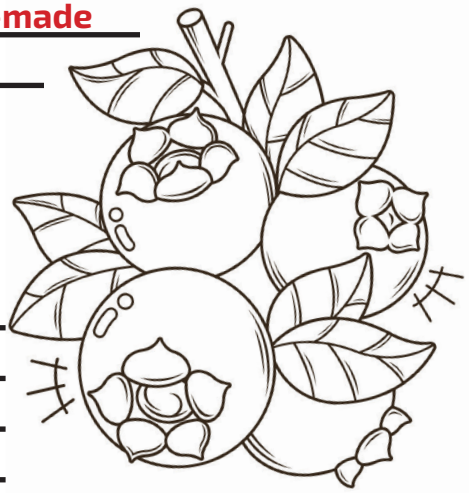
1. Describe how the catapult mechanism in the flower works.

The catapult mechanism works by having the flower's leaves fold back, which triggers a spring-like action that launches the pollen upward extremely quickly.

2. What do you think is the most amazing thing about the butchberry dogwood plant? Explain why.

(Example) The most amazing thing about the butch berry dogwood plant is its tiny catapult mechanism that launches pollen with incredible speed. It's impressive because it's a natural design that works even faster than many human-made machines.

3. This shows me that God is (Circle the word):

Wise Powerful Caring Creative All of the above

Explain your choice: