Here are my flowers. My buds have opened in the spring sunshine. My flower heads are like little suns! Bees buzz around them.

A dandelion flower head is made up of around 100 tiny flowers. These are called florets.

Dandelion florets make nectar and pollen, food for insects, such as honeybees.



Dandelions are an important source of food for insects in the spring. Most plants flower later in the year.

The night is falling. The sky is clear and it is frosty. My flowers are closing-up tight, safe from the cold.

Dandelion flower heads close-up when it gets dark. The green bracts that grow around the flower protect it from the cold.



The closed bracts keep the nectar fresh and the pollen dry inside the flower – ready for the insects in the morning.

Look at my flower heads now!

When the bracts open again, a magical transformation has taken place.

Each floret has formed a seed on a delicate, silky pappus. Together, the pappi form a ball shape.

The seed heads stay open all the time.

My golden-sun flower has changed into a fluffy, full moon.

My seeds are ready and I wait for the wind to carry them away.



The pappus is like a parachute. Air flows through the ring of tiny strands lifting the seed up and away.

The seed is inside a hard, jagged casing called a cantheliem.