



FACTS about the Giant Water Lily of the Amazon Rainforest (Latin name -Victoria amazonica)

The world's largest lily grows in the Amazon rainforest. Its leaves grow 6-8 feet across and can support 300 pounds of weight! The flowers are the size of soccer balls. When they first open, they are white and emit a smell that attracts scarab beetles. The flowers close around the beetle at night. When the flower reopens in the morning, the beetle escapes to pollinate another flower. After the flower is pollinated it changes to a purple color!

- http://www.hilozoo.com/plants/PE_amazon.htm
- <http://www.livingrainforest.org/about/plants/giantwaterlily>
- <http://www.junglephotos.com/amazon/amplants/waterplants/gwlilypad.shtml>



DIRECTIONS

Cut out the tri-fold lily pad in one piece. Fold into thirds so that the lily pad design is on the front. (The back is marked.)

Color the lily pad green. Add details to the flowers — petals and scarab beetles if you choose. Color one flower purple/pink and leave the other white.

Use brads to attach the flowers to the inside of the book. Leave them loose enough so the flowers can swing in and out. Your child can explain the color changing flowers by using the action of the mini-book.