THE OCTOBER FLOWER THE JAPANESE ANEMONE

HOMONYMS

The word anemone can refer to both plants and sea animals.

Anemone is a type of flowering plant belonging to the buttercup family.

An anemone is also a soft, brightly coloured sea creature that looks like a flower and often lives on rocks in the ocean.

BOTANICAL FACTS

- The name anemone is of Greek origin, it derives from the term anemos meaning winds.
- The flower is thus nicknamed wind flower.
- It blooms from Spring to Fall and is usually planted in October.
- It comes in all shades : white, yellow, silverpink, rose, blue, purple, scarlet, rust, copper, and coral.
- It grows in temperate climates.
- It can grow up to 4 feet tall.
- It is found in Japan but also grows in Europe and North America.
- It closes up at night and opens up in the morning.
- It does not have any scent and due to the absence of nectar it does not attract bees.
- It is poisonous.
- It is a perennial flower which grows back year after year.



SYMBOLISM/BELIEFS

- In Roman Antiquity, they were worn as talismans to prevent fever.
- On the contrary they were called 'Death flower' by the Egyptians who associated them with sickness.
- In the Victorian language of flowers, they symbolise fragility.
- It was once believed that magical fairies found shelter in the folded petals of anemones during rainstorms.



ANEMONE IN ART

Monet, Renoir and Van Gogh were all inspired by anemones. Can you guess who painted which bouquet?







