So Many Seeds!

Seeds are packages of new plants ready to be grow, and it all starts with a flower. When female flowers are pollinated, they begin to make one, two or many seeds. As the new seed develops, it uses stored food inside the seed for the growth of roots & shoots. Seeds move away from the mother plant so the new plant can get plenty of sunlight, water and minerals for growth and eventually develops flowers to start the lifecycle all over again.

Try to match these seeds and fruits below with clues that tell you how they move. Then, go outside or visit the Arb or Matthaei and see if you can find any of these seeds in nature!

1. I live near the water, and my balloon-like seedpods float! I am a ____________
2. I like open areas where monarchs can find me. The wind carries my seeds. I am ____________
3. I have seeds that stick to animals and move from place to place. I am ____________
4. I have tiny seeds that float easily in the air. I am ____________
5. I have seeds surrounded by juicy red fruits that birds love to eat, dropping seeds later. I am a ____________
6. I have seeds that float through the air, some people call my seeds ‘helicopters’. I am a ____________

1 = Bladdernut tree 2 = Common milkweed 3 = Stickseed (Hakelia) 4 = Goldenrod 5 = Crabapple 6 = Maple tree