

**Between Earth and Sky**

# LUPE'S POWDER-BLUE PETAL-POWER CAR

Lupe lay flat on her back on the soft, green grass. Well, Lupe doesn't *really* have a back. She's a flower. She has lots of petals. When she lies on her petals, it's like resting on lots of little pillows.

As Lupe lay on the grass, the beautiful Daisy Flower Garden swayed and hummed all around her. Birds chirped and honeybees buzzed. Lupe paid no attention.

Was Lupe napping? No!

Was Lupe just soaking up some sun? No!



Lupe was looking under her car.  
 Lupe's car is light blue, just like Lupe.  
 Powder blue, that's what she calls it. It's Lupe's  
 powder-blue, petal-power car.  
 And what in the world is a petal-power car?  
 It's a car that runs on petal power. That means  
 flower power. Lupe and her friends make the  
 car go. Every part of every flower helps. Help  
 also comes from the sun and the wind and the  
 rain. At dusk, when the sun starts to fade, help  
 also comes from two very **bright** fireflies.

You'll meet them soon. But right now, Lupe  
 is busy under her car. If you look under  
 her car, you'll see lots of hoses.  
 And you'll smell the sweet smell  
 of fresh earth. If you poke your  
 head inside the car, you'll smell  
 that sweet smell, too.

WORDS FOR THE WISE

**BRIGHT** means full  
 of light, like the sun.  
 Bright also means  
 smart. The fireflies  
 in this story are  
 both kinds of  
 bright!

## FLOWER POWER

Hi, I'm Daisy. I don't look like  
 I'm doing much. But if the sun  
 is shining, I'm busy turning  
 sunlight into energy.

I also "eat" through my roots.  
 Water and food travel up my  
 roots to my stem, and then to  
 my leaves and petals.

Can you name all my parts?

Remember: The Daisy Flower  
 Garden is named for me—and  
 for all Girl Scout Daisies.



# MY powder-blue PETAL-POWER CAR

Hi, I'm Lupe, the lupine. I do my best to be honest and fair, just like the Girl Scout Law says. I peeled back the doors and hood of my car so you could see inside. How do you like my deep-blue bucket seats?



These **SAILS** are sturdy leaves. On windy days, they let my car fly down the highway!

My **BACKSEAT** has two rows, so lots of friends can come along for a ride.

**HEADLIGHT HAMMOCKS** keep fireflies Lucy and Ace cozy.

**GOURDS** are my "gas tanks." They hold lots of water so I can travel far without stopping.

Can you guess what my **TIRES** are made of?



## WORDS FOR THE WISE

**SPRUCE** means to make something neat. Spruce is also a kind of tree. It's an evergreen. It stays green all year long.



Just then a voice called out, "Hey, Lupe! Can I help?" It was Zinni, the spring-green zinnia. But Lupe didn't hear Zinni calling. She was still busy under her car.

So Zinni peeked inside Lupe's car. There she saw comfy seats shaped like buckets. They were deep blue. They looked really good in Lupe's powder-blue car.

Lupe slid out from under her car and stood up. "Zinni!" she said with surprise. "How long have you been here?"

"Not long," Zinni said. "What are you doing?"

"I'm **sprucing** up my car," Lupe answered.

"I'm getting ready for a road trip."

"Where to?" Zinni asked.

## Hey There, Little Firefly!

Fireflies have many names: lightning bugs, glowflies, moon bugs, blinkies, big dippers. In this story, the fireflies are Lucy and Ace.

Can you think of other good names for fireflies?

"Maine," Lupe said. "That's the place to be in summer! The days are warm and the nights are cool. Why don't you join me?"

"I don't know," Zinni said. "When I'm on a road trip, the wind blows my seeds around. And my petals, too. I don't want little zinnias sprouting everywhere I go."





WORDS FOR THE WISE

**CONSIDERATE**  
means to look out  
for the feelings  
of others. Being  
considerate is living  
the Girl Scout  
Law.

“Oh, Zinni, you’re so considerate,” Lupe said. “We can stop along the way and pick up your seeds and petals wherever we go.”

“Then count me in!” Zinni said.

Lupe and Zinni looked out over the beautiful Daisy Flower Garden. Flowers of all shapes and colors swayed in the breeze.

“Shapes and colors,” Lupe said. “That’s what the world is made of! Once you know that, you can make sense of anything.”

Just then, Lupe and Zinni saw their friend Clover coming toward them.

“Clover!” called Zinni. “Lupe is taking a road trip to Maine. And I’m going with her!”

“Maine! Why?” Clover asked.

## Tree Shapes, Tree Colors!

Many spruce trees grow in Maine, where Lupe is going. Most spruces are green. But some are named for a color, like the Blue Spruce you see below.

*In Maine, some spruces grow on tree farms. Tree farms are places where people plant and take care of trees. Some of the trees are cut for lumber or to make paper. Some are moved to people’s yards or to parks. Tree farms keep lots of trees growing on Earth.*



Blue Spruce

What trees grow where you live? Draw them!



“For fresh ocean air, cool nights, and wild Maine blueberries,” Lupe answered. “Plus, the Lupine Festival! My whole family is going.”

“That sounds like fun,” said Clover. “But Alaska is where I need to be. My cousin is in trouble there. At least I think she’s my cousin. Her name is White Sweetclover. She’s growing all over the place and kicking out all the other plants, even plants that moose eat! Why would a clover do that? And a clover with such a sweet name!”

“I have a cousin like that in California,” Lupe said. “Her name is Yellow Lupine. ”



“Hey, come with me to Maine and then we’ll drive to Alaska together,” Lupe added. “We can stop in California on the way so you can meet Yellow Lupine.”

“But I promised my family we’d all go together,” Clover said. “Family is so important, and so are promises.”

### Put Your Nose to Nature

**Do you live near the ocean? Or a lake? Or a pond?**

**How about a forest? Or a tree? Or some flowers?**

**What is the air like where you live?**



“My car has plenty of room for your family,”  
Lupe said. “It has a big backseat.”

You could fit a whole clover patch in here,”  
Lupe added, pointing to the back of her petal-  
power car.

Clover moved to the back of the car to take  
a look. “Wow, this is roomy! And you have  
lots of seat belts,” she said. “My family will be  
so happy. I’ll go tell them to get ready for a  
road trip!”

And off Clover went, skipping through the  
grass as fast as she could without tripping over  
her own green leaves.

