

Spring Science Assessment: Life Cycles and Habitats

Learning objective: To demonstrate an understanding of seasonal changes, life cycles, and how living things are classified in spring.

Read each question carefully. Write your answers clearly in the space provided. Remember to use scientific vocabulary where possible.

Nova the owl has been watching the forest change as the days get longer. The temperature is rising, and the once-frozen pond is now full of activity. Bea the honeybee is busy visiting the first spring flowers to collect nectar, while the trees are beginning to grow new green leaves. In the pond, frogspawn has appeared, marking the start of a new life cycle.

Word bank: germination · migration · habitat · reproduction · amphibian · blossom · environment

1. Nova notices the temperature rising in spring. Name two ways that warmer weather affects the plants in the forest. (2 marks)

2. Bea the honeybee visits flowers to collect nectar. Explain why this process is important for the plant's life cycle. (2 marks)

3. Identify one example of an amphibian mentioned in the passage and describe one feature that shows it is an amphibian. (2 marks)

4. Some birds return to the UK in the spring after spending the winter in warmer countries. What is the scientific term for this seasonal movement? (1 mark)

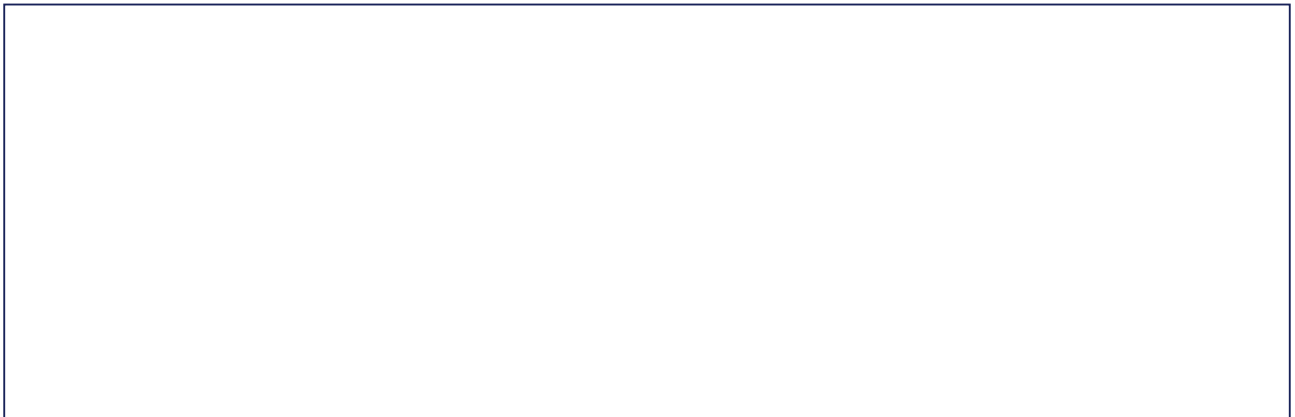
5. Max the monkey is studying the seeds in the garden. Describe the process of germination and what a seed needs to begin this stage. (3 marks)

6. Explain how a change in the environment, such as a very dry spring, might affect the animals living in a pond habitat. Give a reason for your answer. (4 marks)

7. Imagine you are a scientist like Bea. Write a report (5-6 sentences) observing a local habitat during spring. Describe the plants, the animals you see, and how they are behaving differently compared to winter. (5 marks)

8. List two reasons why it is important for scientists to observe and record seasonal changes over many years. (6 marks)

Draw: Draw a diagram of a simple life cycle of a flowering plant, labelling the stages from seed to flower.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Think about climate change: How might an earlier arrival of spring affect the timing of when birds lay their eggs and when insects emerge?