

Springtime Science: Life Cycles and Growth

Learning objective: To describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals, and identify the changes that occur during the spring season.

Use this writing scaffold to help you write a scientific report about the changes Nova the owl observes in the forest during spring. Follow the paragraph prompts to explain how life cycles progress as the weather warms up.

As the days grow longer and the temperature rises, Nova the owl notices that the forest is beginning to wake from its winter slumber.

Word bank: furthermore · consequently · germination · pollination · noticeably · in addition · as a result · subsequently · life cycle · observation

1. Introduction: Describe the environmental changes that signal the arrival of spring. Start with: 'Spring begins when the Earth's tilt causes the days to become longer, which results in...' (2 marks)

2. Plant Growth: Explain the process of germination and how plants respond to the new season. Start with: 'During this time, seeds begin the process of germination because...' (2 marks)

3. Pollination: Describe the role of insects like Bea the bee in the life cycle of flowering plants. Start with: 'Insects play a crucial role in reproduction; for instance, as they collect nectar...' (2 marks)

4. Animal Life Cycles: Discuss how animals change their behaviour or offspring in spring. Start with: 'Many animals adapt to the spring season by...' (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: Summarise why spring is the most important season for new life. Start with: 'In conclusion, the arrival of spring is essential because...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a specific plant or animal found in the UK. Create a labelled diagram showing its life cycle stages and write one paragraph explaining how it specifically relies on the conditions of spring to survive.