

Springtime Science with Bea the Bee

Learning objective: To identify and describe the functions of parts of flowering plants and understand the seasonal life cycles of living things in spring.

Read each flashcard carefully to learn about the science of spring. Use these to test your knowledge of how plants and animals grow and change during this season.

What is the process of germination?

Germination is the stage in a plant's life cycle where a seed begins to sprout and grow into a small seedling after absorbing water and warmth.

Why do deciduous trees begin to grow new leaves in spring?

Deciduous trees grow new leaves to begin photosynthesis, which allows them to create their own food using sunlight as the days grow longer.

What is the primary role of a pollinator like Bea the Bee?

Pollinators transfer pollen from the stamen (male part) to the carpel (female part) of a flower, which is essential for the plant to produce seeds and fruit.

Explain the role of the stamen in a flower.

The stamen is the male reproductive part of the flower that produces and holds the pollen grains.

How do seasonal changes in spring affect animal behavior?

Longer daylight hours and rising temperatures trigger animals to emerge from hibernation, begin nesting, and seek out new sources of food.

What is an adaptation?

An adaptation is a special feature or behavior that helps a living thing survive in its environment, such as a bird building a nest to protect its eggs.

Define the life cycle of a flowering plant.

The life cycle is the series of stages a plant goes through, starting from a seed, growing into a mature plant, producing flowers, and creating new seeds.

What does a plant need to begin its life cycle?

A plant needs water, warmth, and the correct nutrients from the soil to successfully germinate and grow.

Explain why many animals choose spring to have their young.

Spring provides more food, such as fresh plants and insects, and milder weather, which gives the young a better chance of survival.

What is the difference between a deciduous and an evergreen tree?

Deciduous trees lose their leaves annually in fall and regrow them in spring, whereas evergreen trees keep their leaves or needles throughout the year.