

All About Spring

Spring is one of the four seasons. It is the season that comes after winter. Spring starts on 20th March and ends on 21st June. Spring is the season when we change our clocks forward one hour. We often have a mixture of sunny and rainy days.

What happens to the animals?

Animals such as hedgehogs, grass snakes, lizards, adders, frogs and toads come out of hibernation on the first warm spring days. You might see frogspawn, which looks like jelly.

Some animals move about a lot more in spring, such as squirrels. You can see squirrels scampering about, looking for food and climbing trees.

There are also lots of migrant birds that come back to the UK in the spring. You can see swifts, cuckoos and nightingales.

Hibernation: A time when animals rest and save their energy for the warmer months.

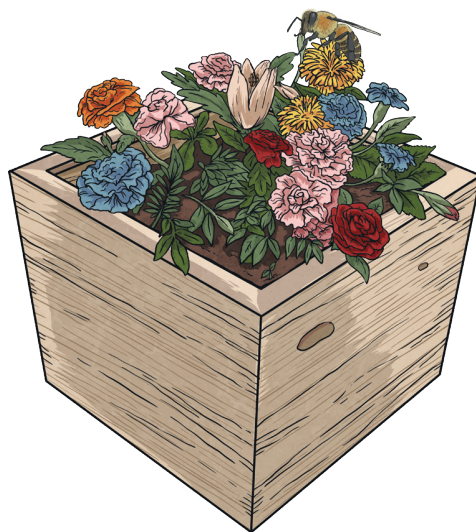
Migrant birds: birds that go to a warmer country for the winter.



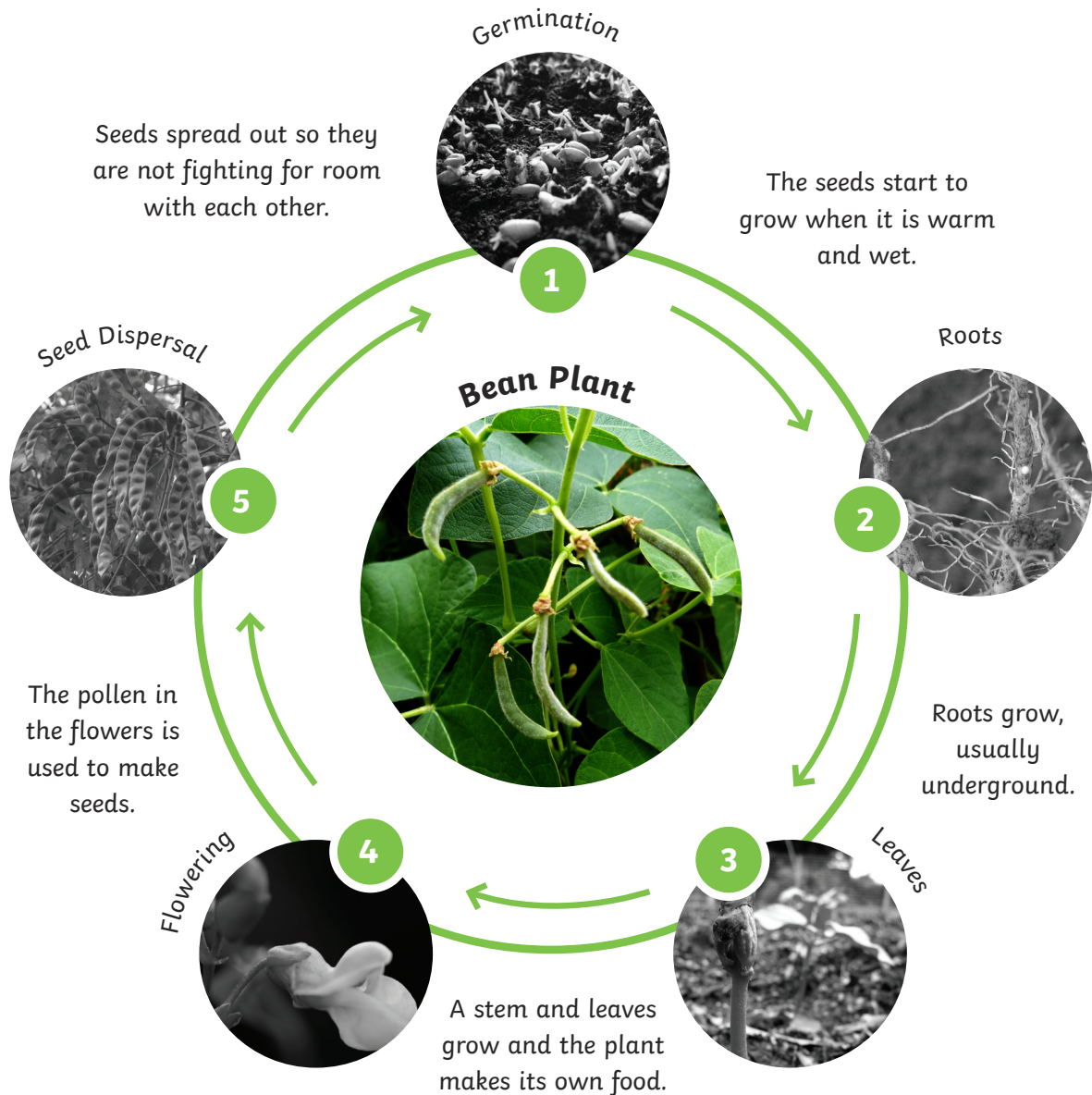
What happens to the plants and the insects?

Nature is very busy in spring and there are lots of changes. You can see the trees and bushes sprout new leaves again in spring and many plants flower because the air and soil are warmer and there are more daylight hours.

Many more insects can be spotted in spring, including butterflies and bees, which like the flowers.



The Flowering Plant Life Cycle



Easter

Easter is a celebration that happens in spring in the northern hemisphere. It started as a religious festival and now many people celebrate it with chocolate eggs, games or an Easter egg hunt. Easter Sunday always falls on a day between 22nd March and 25th April.

Photo courtesy of Jim Champion, llee_wu, solylunafamilia, OakleyOriginals, Crispin Semmens, dinesh Valke (@flickr.com) - granted under creative commons licence - attribution

Questions

1. When does spring end? Tick **one**.

- 20th March
 21st June
 21st March
 20th June

2. What do we do to the clocks during spring?

3. Which of the following is closest to the meaning of the word **migrant**? Tick **one**.

- travels to different countries
 sleeps during the winter
 sleeps during the spring
 grows during spring

4. Use the information in the text to match the sentences up.

The air and soil are warmer in spring so...

that there are more hours of daylight.

Another thing that helps plants grow is...

trees grow new leaves and plants flower.

Many insects can be spotted in spring, such as...

butterflies and bees.

5. Tick the boxes to say whether the sentences are true or false.

Sentence	True	False
The first step of a plant life cycle is seed dispersal.		
The pollen in flowers is used to make seeds.		
Plants make their own food.		
Seeds start to grow when it is wet and cold.		

6. Between which two dates does Easter Sunday always fall?

7. The author has used sub-headings in the text. Why do you think the author has done this?
