

# Spring in New Zealand

Spring is one of the four seasons. It is the season that comes after winter. Spring begins in September and ends in November. Spring is the season when we change our clocks forward one hour. We often have a mixture of sunny and rainy days. The length of the days increase as the season goes on and the nights get shorter.



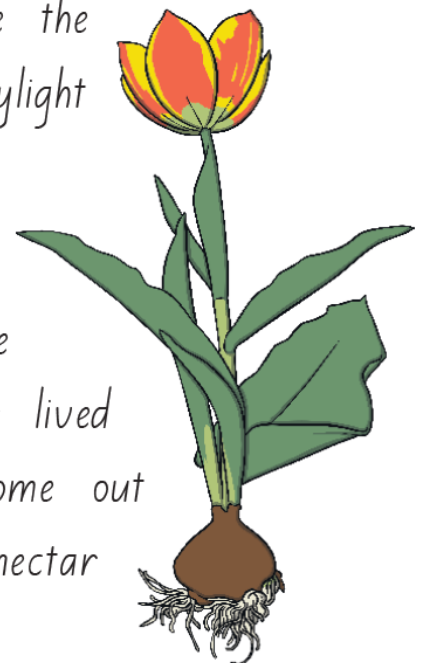
## What happens to the animals?

There are many new animals born in the first warm spring days. There are lots of lambs, foals and calves in the paddocks and ducklings in the rivers and creeks.

## What happens to the plants and insects?

Nature is very busy in spring and there are lots of changes. You can see the trees and bushes grow new leaves again in spring and many plants flower. They can do this because the air and soil are warmer and there are more daylight hours. Blossom appears first, then the leaves.

Many more insects can be spotted in the spring, including butterflies and bees, which are attracted to the flowers. Queen bees that have lived through their hibernation during the winter come out on warm days in September and look for nectar and pollen from the flowers.



## Which celebrations happen in spring?

To celebrate the spring season, many regions around New Zealand hold different types of festivals and events, such as food festivals, blossom festivals and garden exhibitions.

Around the world, many people celebrate Halloween on 31<sup>st</sup> October. Some families in New Zealand may dress up and celebrate this holiday too.

On 5<sup>th</sup> November some New Zealand families celebrate Guy Fawkes Day. They may attend public fireworks displays with friends and family.



# Questions

Answer the questions below in full sentences.

1. How do we change our clocks in spring?

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2. When does spring begin and end?

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3. What happens to the days and nights in spring?

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4. Name animals that are born in spring.

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5. What do we see on trees in spring?

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6. How might people celebrate the new spring season?

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7. What allows trees to grow new leaves and plants to flower in spring?

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8. Why do queen bees come out of hibernation in spring?

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