



Lihle and Lwandle are in the Northern Cape to visit their cousin, Lina.

Lina takes them to see flowers in an area called Namaqualand.



"The ground is covered with bright colours!" exclaims Lwandle.

Lina smiles, "At the start of Spring, many flowers bloom here."



Lina continues, "After rain, and as temperatures begin to rise, flowers grow everywhere.

For a short time, this dry land changes to fields of flowers."



"In Spring, our mother plants seeds in the garden. Who planted flowers here?" asks Lwandle.

Lina responds, "They are wild flowers, no one planted them."



"Namaqualand has many different types of plants, animals, and insects," says Lina.

"I think the word for that is 'biodiversity'," says Lihle.



"Yes, biodiversity is when there are many different types of living things in one place," replies Lina.

"Biodiversity in nature creates healthy environments," says Lihle.



The girls walk past a shepherd.

"Baaaa!" the sheep bleat. "Baaaa!" the girls chorus.

"Many lambs are born in Spring," notices Lihle.



"In Spring, many animals give birth, or hatch eggs," agrees Lina.

"I love baby animals! Exactly when does Spring start?" asks Lwandle.



"It's difficult to be exact with the seasons.

But, we generally see the first signs of Spring here in September," responds Lina.



“The weather starts to get warmer, and rain falls,” says Lina.

“Then, for a short time, the desert becomes a garden of wildflowers,” smiles Lihle.



—Questions

1. Where are Lihle and Lwandle? Find the place on a map.
2. What season is it in the story?
3. What happens in this season?
4. Is Spring the same or different where you live? Explain.
5. What do plants need to grow?
6. Which season do you like most? Why?
7. Why do you think the season described in the story is called Spring?
8. Do you agree that biodiversity creates a healthy environment? Explain.