



January

"Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished." - Lao Tzu



**QUIZ!**

## Strawberry

### The Secrets of Strawberries and the Environment

1. How long does it take for a strawberry to ripen after it has been planted?


- A) A few hours.
- B) A few days.
- C) A few weeks.

2. Why is the strawberry important for the environment?

- A) It's the favorite fruit of most birds.
- B) It attracts pollinators like bees.
- C) It's the only plant that can survive climate changes.

3. Which part of the strawberry can you plant to grow a new plant?

- A) The leaf and the fruit.
- B) The runner and the leaf.
- C) The fruit and the runner.



### Learning About Strawberry Growth!

For a strawberry to grow, it needs:

**Light:** A bright environment.

**Good Soil:** Well-drained, rich in organic matter, with a pH of 5.5-6.8.

**Water:** Consistent moisture, but avoid overwatering.

**Fertilizer:** Regular feeding with manure or compost for nutrients.

**Temperature:** Ideal temperature is 18-24°C.

**Protection:** Safeguard from harmful organisms and diseases.



### Endemic Plant of Cyprus

Cyprus Crocus (*Crocus cyrius*)

**Information:** The crocus is one of the first flowers to bloom in January. It is small and has beautiful purple or white petals.



### Endemic Animal of Cyprus

Cyprus Mouflon (*Ovis gmelini ophion*)

The Role of the Cyprus Mouflon in the Ecosystem

What is the Mouflon?

The mouflon is a wild sheep with large, curved horns that lives in the mountainous forests of Cyprus.

#### Why is the Mouflon Important?

##### Biodiversity Conservation

**What it Does:** Helps maintain a variety of different animals and plants.

**Why It's Important:** Keeps the environment healthy and balanced.

##### Pollination and Seed Dispersal

**What it Does:** Carries pollen and seeds as it moves and eats plants.

**Why It's Important:** Aids in the growth of new plants and the regeneration of forests.

##### Vegetation Control

**What it Does:** Eats various plants and grasses, managing vegetation.

**Why It's Important:** Prevents wildfires and keeps forests healthy.

#### Cultural Heritage

**What it Represents:** It is a symbol of Cyprus's natural heritage.

**Why It's Important:** Preserves cultural identity and attracts tourism.

#### How Can We Help the Mouflon?

##### Forest Protection

**What to Do:** Avoid littering in the forests and help keep them clean.

**Why It's Important:** Clean forests are safe and healthy for the mouflon.

##### Respecting Their Environment

**What to Do:** When visiting areas where the mouflon lives, respect the environment.

**Why It's Important:** The mouflon needs peace and safety.

##### Supporting Conservation Programs

**What to Do:** Participate in educational programs and events focused on mouflon conservation.

**Why It's Important:** Awareness and education help in the preservation of the mouflon.