

# March

"Nature never betrays us." - Leonardo da Vinci

## QUIZ!

### Stock (*Matthiola incana*) The Secrets of Stock and the Environment

1. How long does it take for a stock to mature after being planted?  
A) A few hours.  
B) A few days.  
C) A few weeks.
2. Why is stock important for the environment?  
A) It provides shelter for many insects.  
B) It helps maintain biodiversity.  
C) It is the only plant that can survive extreme conditions.
3. Which part of the stock can you plant to grow a new plant?  
A) The leaf.  
B) The seeds.  
C) The fruit.

### Learning About Stock Growth! For a stock plant (*Matthiola incana*) to thrive, it needs:

- Light:** A bright environment with full sunlight.
- Good Soil:** Well-drained, rich in organic matter, with a pH of 6.0-7.5.
- Water:** Consistent moisture, but avoid overwatering.
- Fertilization:** Regular fertilization for nourishment.
- Temperature:** Ideal temperature is 15-25°C.
- Protection:** Safeguard from harmful organisms and diseases. Use natural protection methods like organic insecticides and ensure good air circulation.

### Endemic Plant of Cyprus

Anemone (Anemone coronaria)

Information: The anemone has large, striking flowers that can be red, pink, purple, or white.



### Endemic Reptile of Cyprus

Cyprus Sand Lizard

Information: It primarily lives in rocky areas and stone-built structures, where it can often be found basking on stones. It is active during the day and mainly feeds on small insects.



## Ecosystems

**What They Are:** Ecosystems are communities of living organisms (plants, animals, microorganisms) and their environment (water, soil, air).

**Importance:** All members of an ecosystem depend on each other to survive. Any change can affect the entire system.

### Biodiversity

**What It Is:** The variety of living organisms in an environment.

**Importance:** Biodiversity is essential because it helps ecosystems stay healthy and resilient to changes.

### How to Promote Biodiversity:

- Plant different types of plants in your garden.
- Learn about the animals and plants in your area.
- Support parks and nature reserves.

