



Farms grow food as crops and stock from the land. There is wildlife (native plants and creatures) on many farms too. This story has a rain problem. How should farmers look after the land and wildlife when they are dealing with lack of rain?

- 1 a What is the shape of the native pine trees?
b Why were they planted on top of the hills?
- 2 a What sort of native birds lived in these trees?
b How many can you find in the drawings?
- 3 a Which of the crops did they grow on the sandy hills?
b Which crop did they grow to put something (Nitrogen) back into the soil to make it better for the next crop?

4 What did the farmers do when there wasn't enough rain to keep their crops alive?

5 *Sustainable farming* is looking after the land so that crops and stock grow well, and caring for the native wildlife that lives there too.

Do you think the farmers in this story did this well? Why/not?

(for more on this see the 'Key Science Ideas page' at the end of the story.)



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- 1
 - a Look carefully at the front cover, what pests can you see?
 - b What were the clues to knowing what these pests are?
- 2
 - a Can you name the three crops on page 2 ? (check on page 4)
 - b What is the key shape difference between these crops?
- 3
 - a Where do Blue Tongue Lizards like to live?
 - b What do they like to eat?
 - c How does this help the farmer?
- 4
 - a Why did the farmer sell some stock?
 - b Why did the farmer buy some more stock?

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