

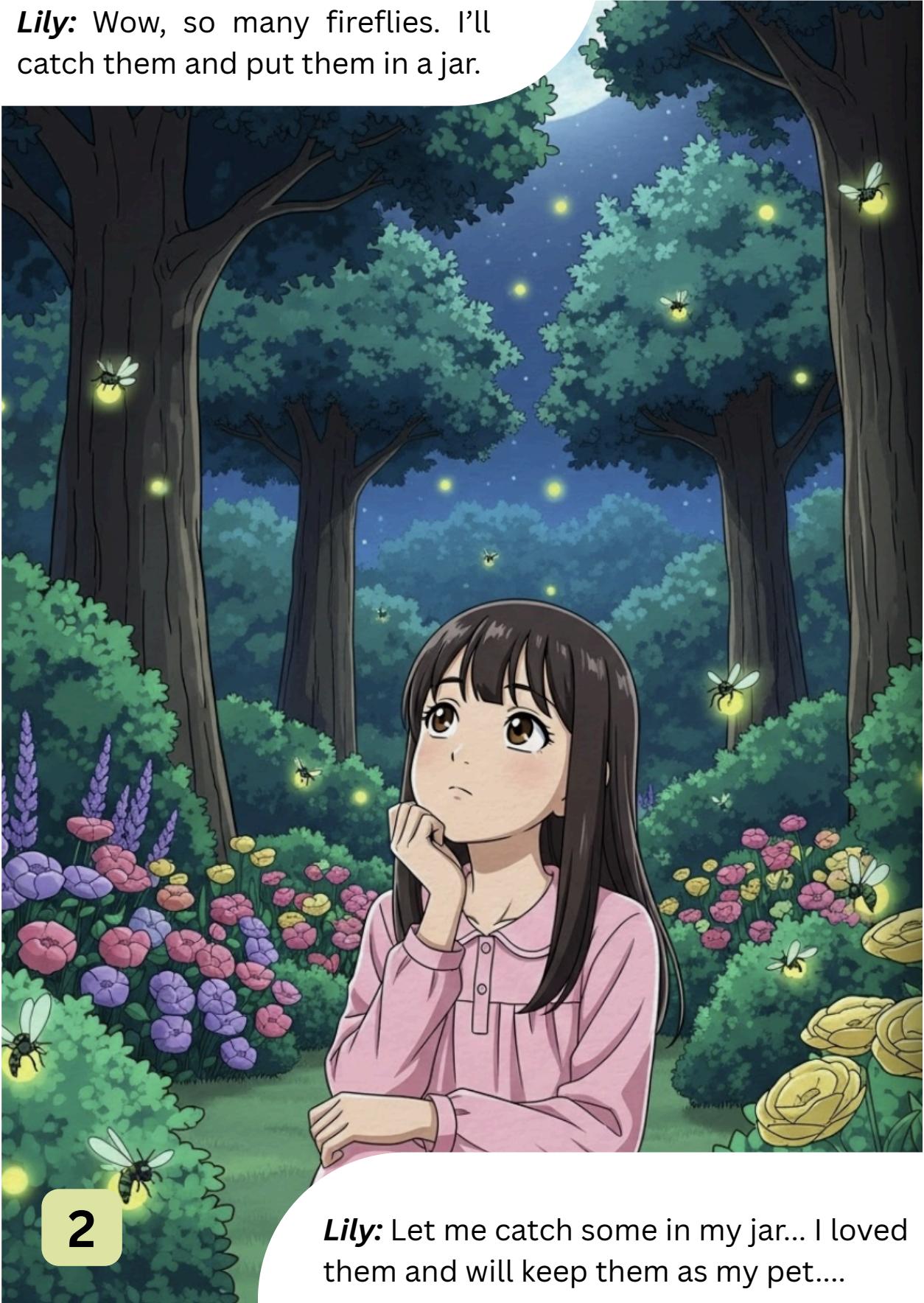
# 4. ENVIRONMENTAL BALANCE

COMICAL WAY OF EXPLORING WORLD



**Lily:** Wow! So many shiny lights!

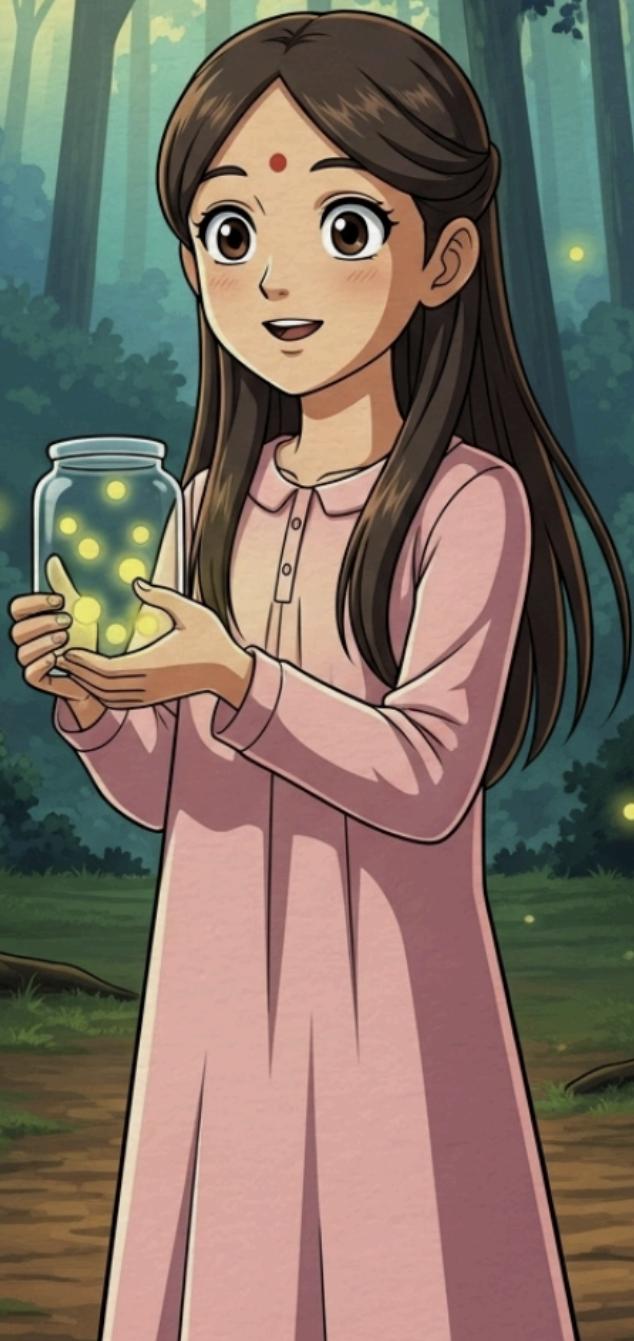
**Lily:** Wow, so many fireflies. I'll catch them and put them in a jar.



2

**Lily:** Let me catch some in my jar... I loved them and will keep them as my pet....

*Lily:* Wow... they are so beautiful.

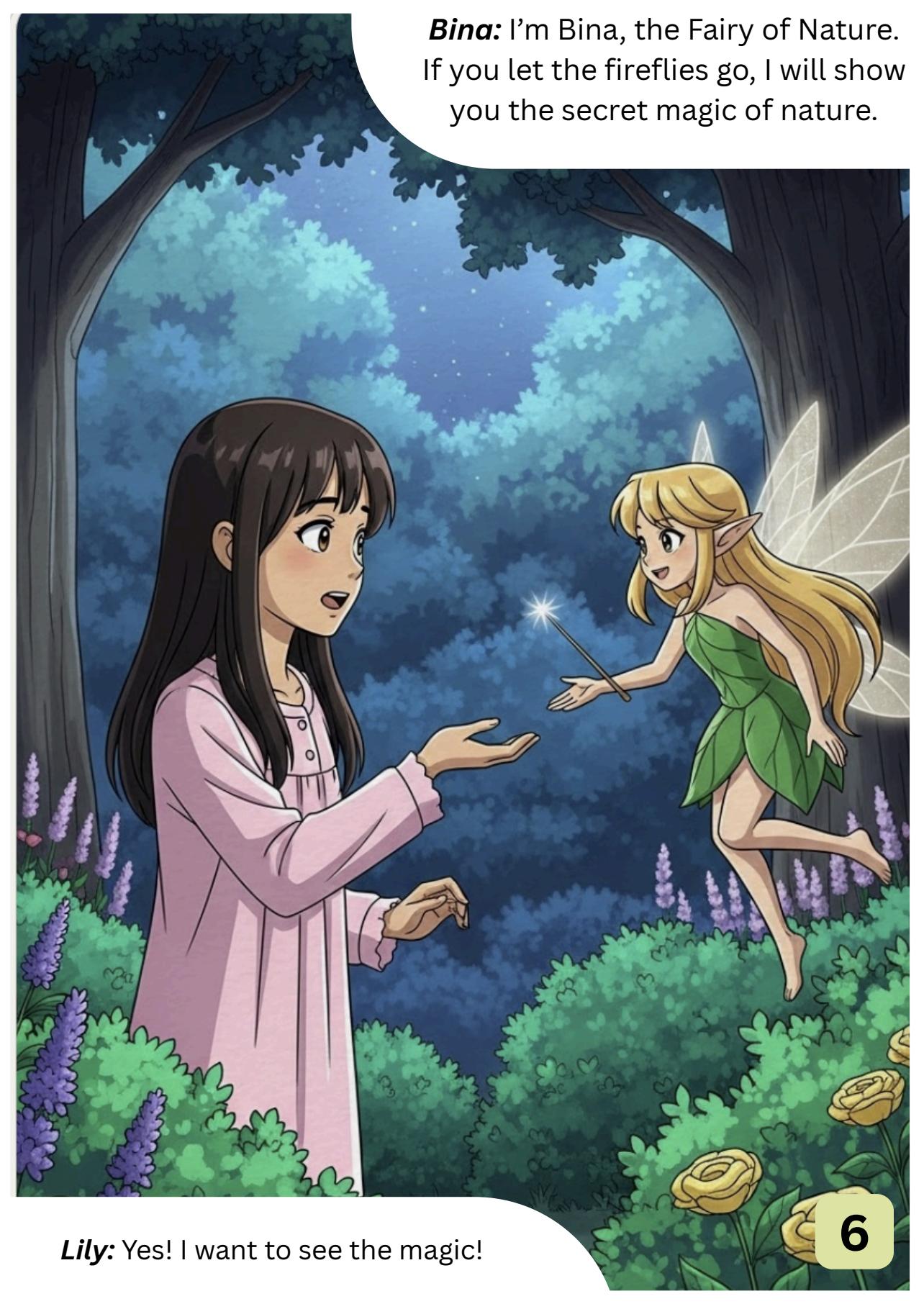




**Bina:** Oh no... The fireflies are part of nature. They need to be free.

**Bina:** Please, little girl... Let the fireflies go. They belong to the forest.

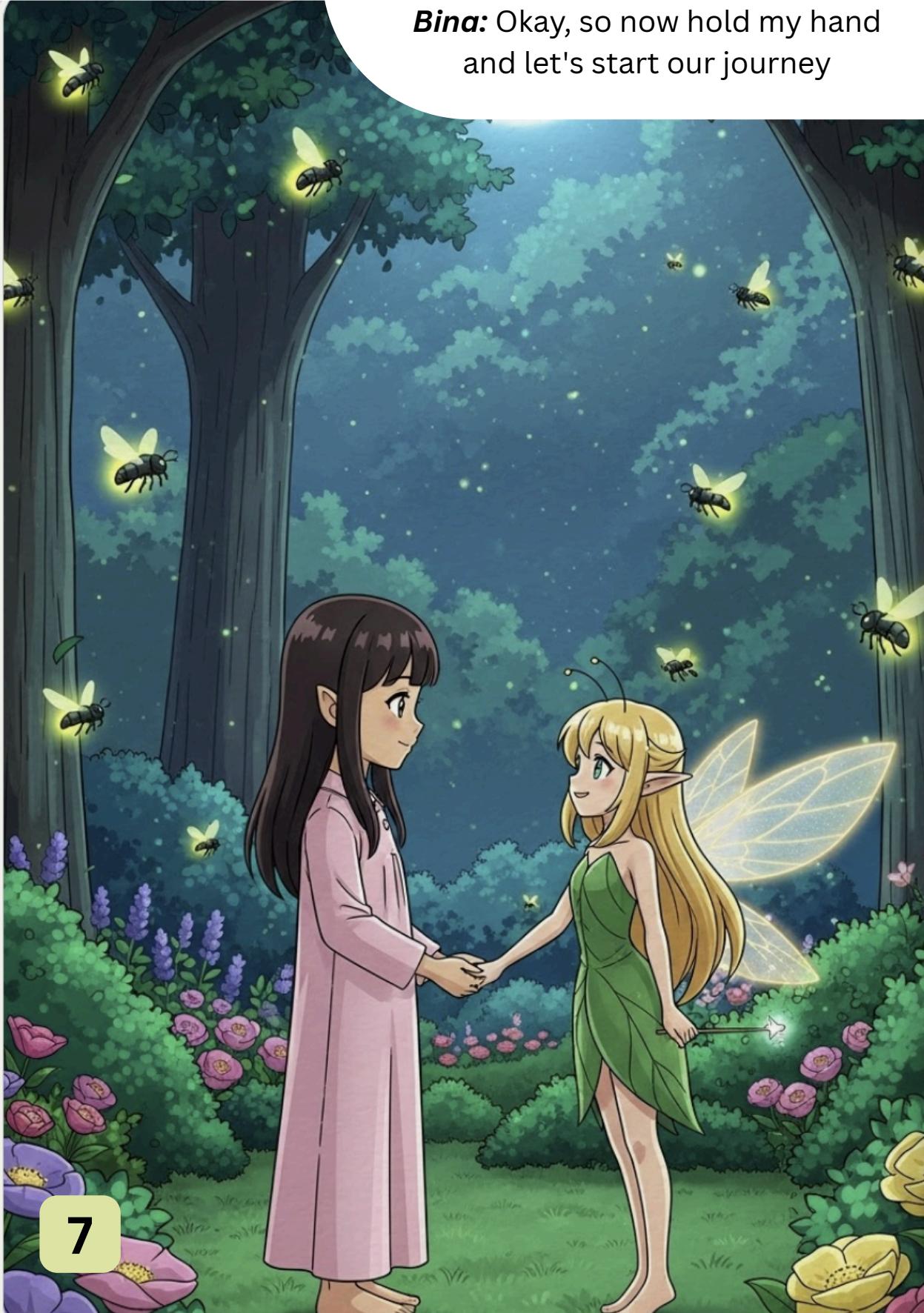




**Bina:** I'm Bina, the Fairy of Nature.  
If you let the fireflies go, I will show  
you the secret magic of nature.

**Lily:** Yes! I want to see the magic!

**Bina:** Okay, so now hold my hand  
and let's start our journey



**Bina:** Tell me, Lily. Do you know what biodiversity is?



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**Lily:** Hmm... Yes! The variety of all living things in a particular area is called biodiversity.



**Bina:** Wow, wonderful, you are smart. There are a variety of living things around us, many of them not even visible to us.

**Lily:** Hmm...this world has so many secrets. Different creatures had a different way of living.

**Bina:** Exactly! Some creatures come out at night, some in the day, and some only in certain seasons.

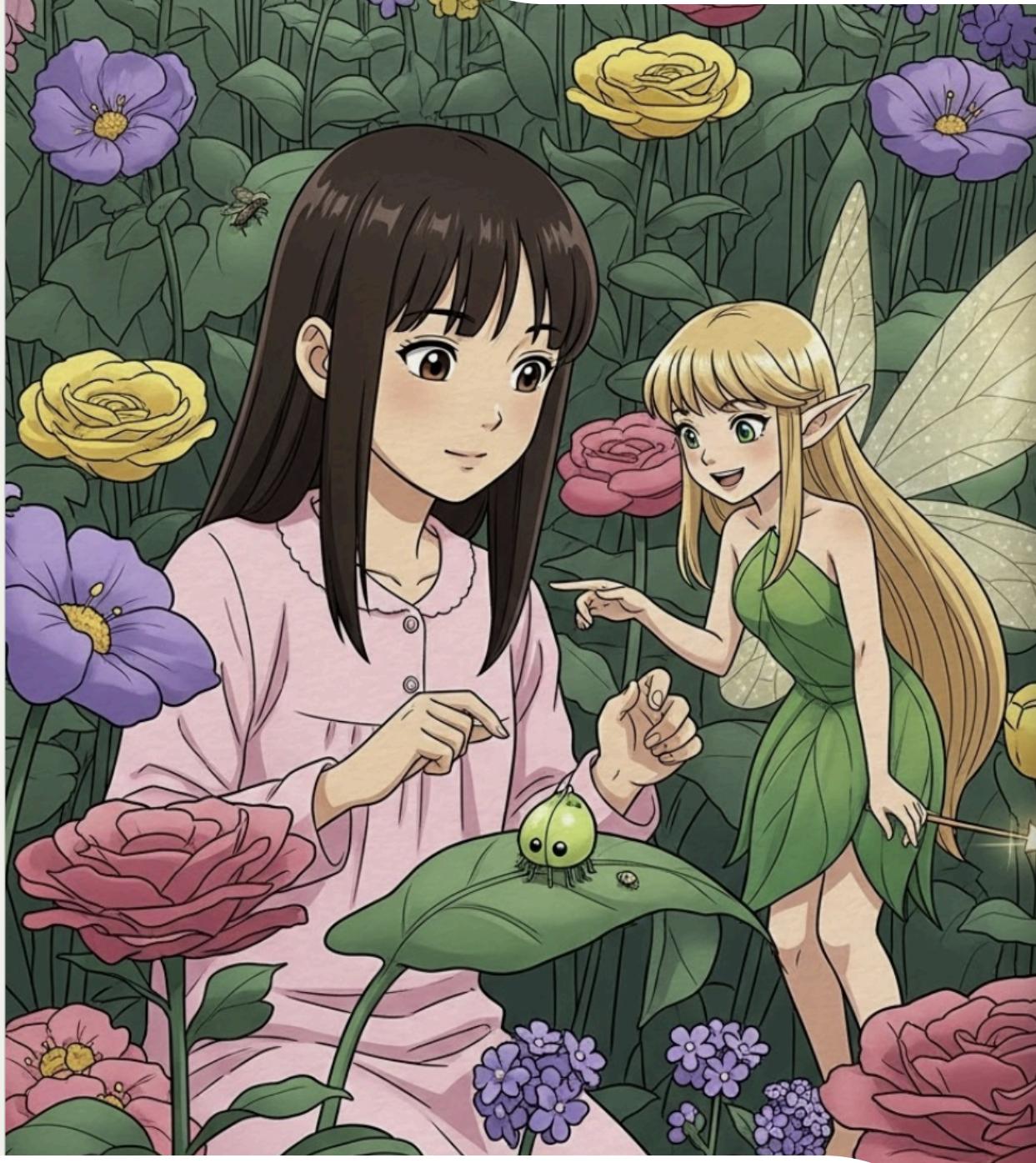
10



**Bina:** The environment includes all living and non-living things and the conditions that affect life.

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**Lily:** How can we identify what are living things in our environment?



**Bina:** Living things can be identified directly or through signs like feathers, tracks, shells, nests, or droppings.

**Lily:** I got it. Here, see this, Bina?  
This cute rabbit is eating grass.



**Lily:** Can I ask you one thing? This rabbit is dependent on grass for his food, like everything depends on each other?

**Bina:** Yes, plants, animals, air, water, soil, and sunlight depend on each other and constantly interact.



**Lily:** Animals that eat other animals still need plants to live!

**Bina:** Yes! Plants give energy to all life.

**Lily:** Bina! Why are the animals so scared?



**Bina:** Something is wrong, Lily. One part of the food chain is missing. In nature, all living things are linked by who eats what.

*Lily:* What is this food chain now?

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*Bina:* See? The sun gives energy to plants. Grasshoppers eat the plants. Birds eat the grasshoppers. Foxes eat the birds; that's a food chain.

*Lily:* So if one part is gone, everyone has a problem?

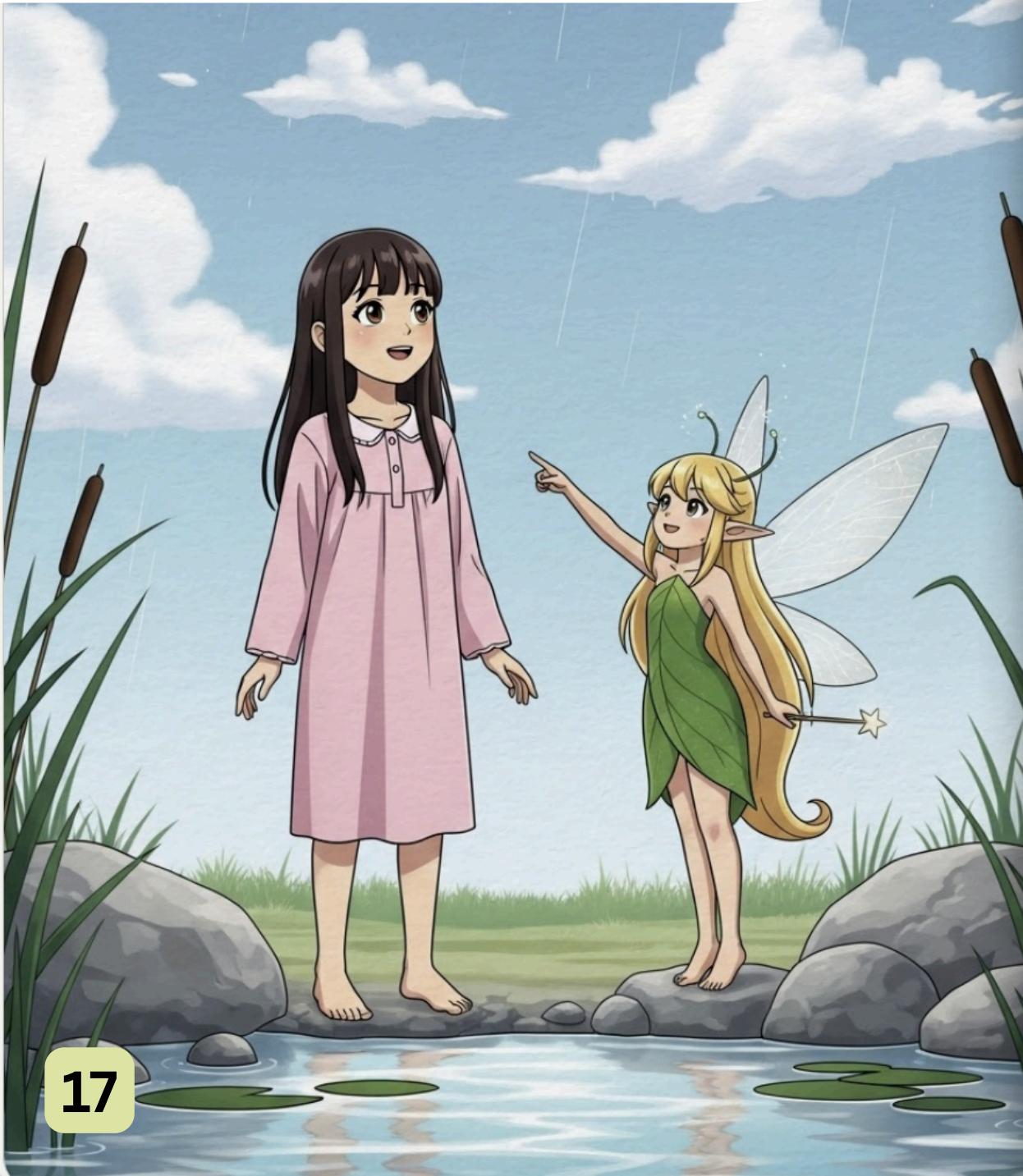
**Bina:** Yes, also multiple food chains connected together form a food web, as one animal can belong to many chains.

**Lily:** Oh, I got it. See these dead leaves? How the new plants grow now?



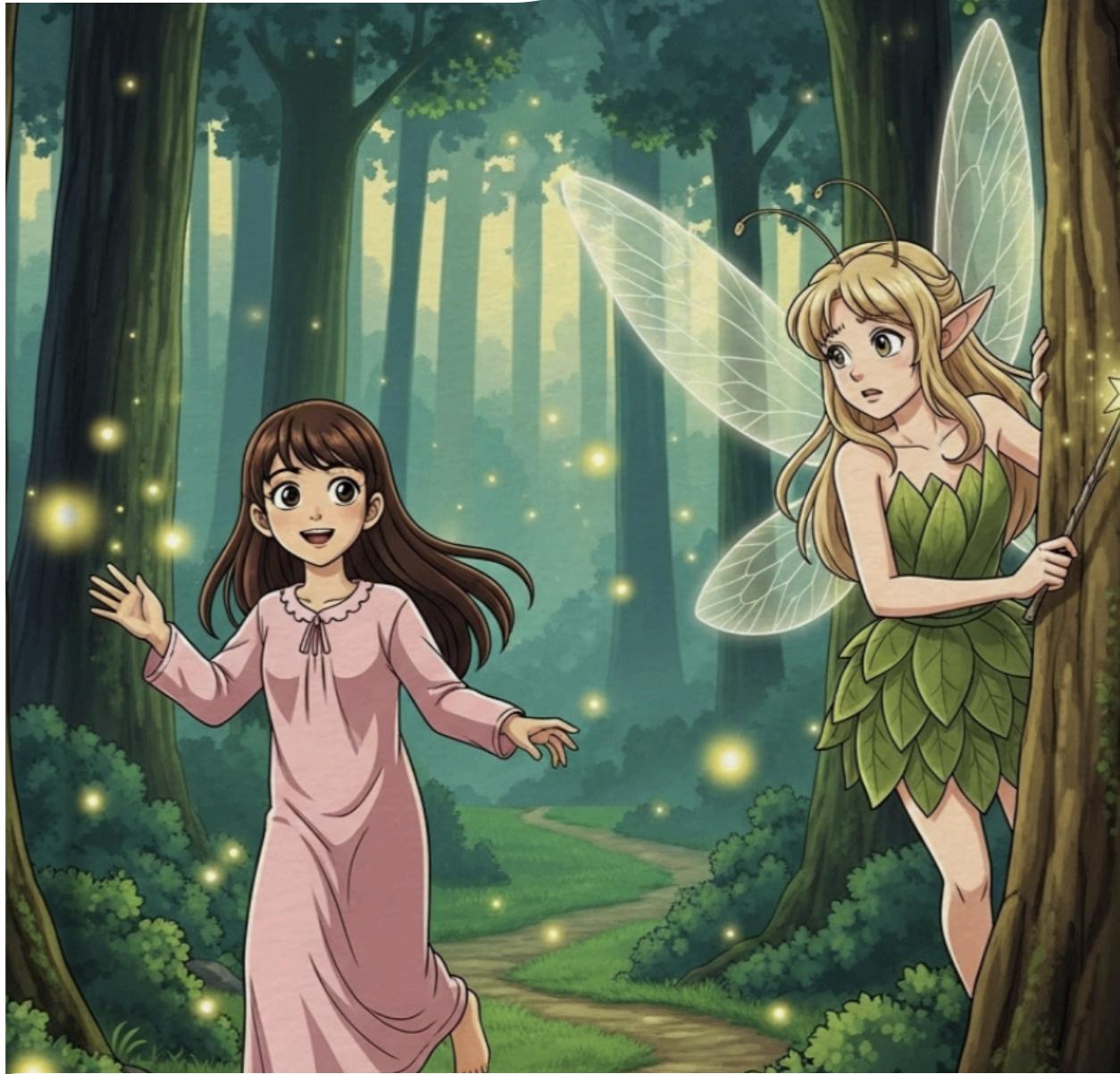
**Bina:** These tiny creatures break down dead plants and animals. It's called decomposition. This helps new plants grow.

**Bina:** Plants are the base of all food chains because they make their own food using sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide. Natural cycles like the water cycle, oxygen-carbon dioxide cycle, and decomposition maintain balance in the environment.



**Lily:** Ohh No! My mom is calling me; I will have to go. Will you come home with me?

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**Bina:** Oh, I would love to, but you will remember me only until the fireflies are visible.

**Lily:** I will really miss you. Don't go, please. I did learn a lot of things from you. Thank you for that.

# Crossword Puzzles



## ACROSS

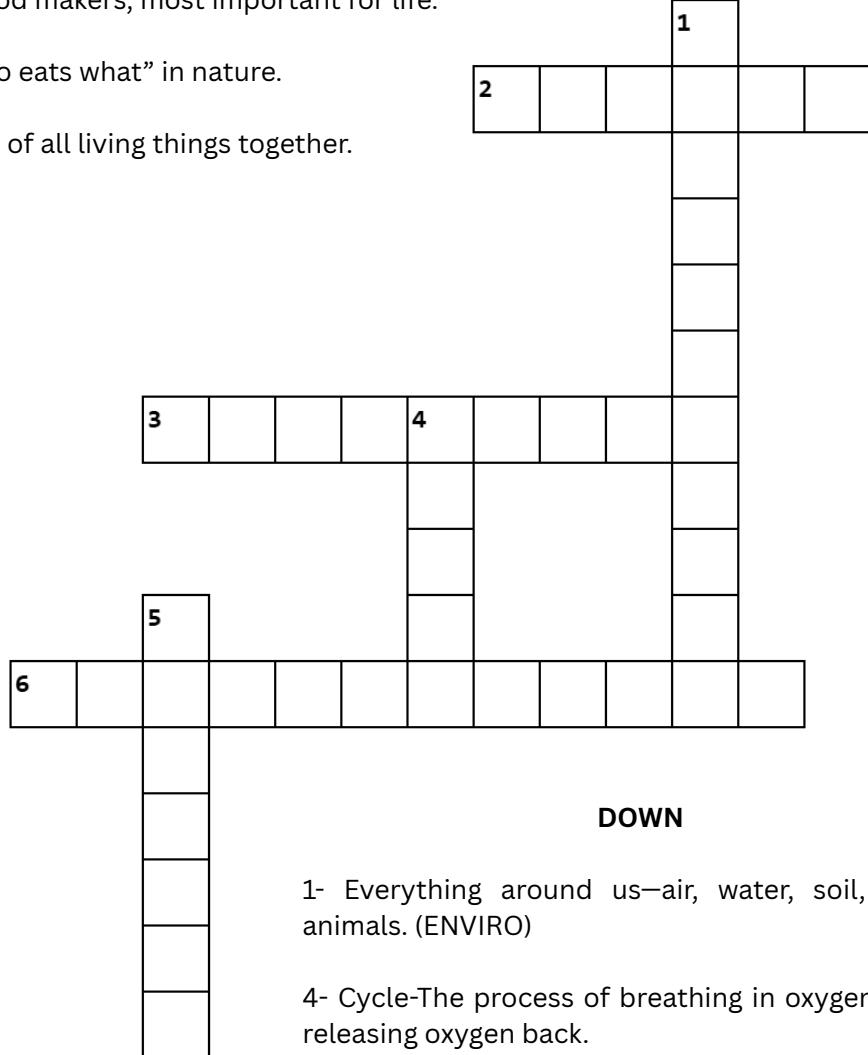
2- The first food makers, most important for life.

1

3- Shows "who eats what" in nature.

2

6- The variety of all living things together.



## DOWN

1- Everything around us—air, water, soil, plants, animals. (ENVIRO)

4- Cycle-The process of breathing in oxygen, plants releasing oxygen back.

5- FOODWEB- Many food chains linked together.

## Answers :

ACROSS: 2- PLANTS 3- FOODCHAIN 6- BIODIV

DOWN: 1- ENVIRONMENT 4- Cycle 5- FOODWEB