

Science Focus: Seasonal Changes	Year Group: 1	Spring Term 1 Summer Term 2
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Key Knowledge:

Overview

Seasons

- Seasons are different times in the year when there are weather changes.
- In places like the UK, there are 4 seasons in a year: **Autumn**, **Winter**, **Spring**, **Summer**.
- The seasons have an effect on landscapes and plant and animal life.
- The length of days change as the seasons change.

The 4 Seasons.

Autumn- September, October, November.

- In autumn, the temperature begins to fall, which means it gets colder.
- The weather is very changeable in autumn.
- Many leaves begin to turn brown and fall from trees.
- The days get shorter and the nights get longer.

Winter- December, January, February.

- Winter is the coldest season of the year.
- The weather is much colder. Sometimes it is cold enough to freeze leaving frost and ice on plants and the ground. Sometimes it snows.
- The daytimes are the shortest in the year and the night times are the longest.

Spring- March, April, May.

- In spring the weather starts to get warmer.
- The leaves begin to grow on trees and plants start to grow and flower.
- Lots of baby animals are born.
- The daytimes start to get longer.

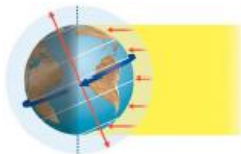
Summer- June, July, August.

- In summer the weather gets hotter.
- The daytime is long and the nights are short.
- The trees are full of leaves and there are lots of flowers, bees, butterflies and other insects.

Why do we have seasons?

The **seasons** are caused because the Earth (our planet) is on a tilt. As the Earth moves around the different places face the Sun more. Which causes the seasons and changes the length of the daytime.

- When a place is tilted **towards** the Sun it is warmer and the daytime is longer (**Summer**).
- When a place is tilted **away** from the Sun it is colder and the daytime is shorter (**Winter**).



Possible Experiments:

- Chart the weather daily and create a weather report.
- Go on season hunt, spot the signs of the season you are in.
- Investigate the seasons in the Southern Hemisphere of the Earth.
- Investigate animal behaviours during the seasons.

Key Vocabulary:

seasons	Seasons are different times in the year when there are weather changes.
weather	The conditions outside. This includes the temperature outside, wind direction and strength, as well as rain, cloud, snow and sun.
daylight	Daylight is when it is light outside. The amount of daylight changes with each season .
day length	The amount of time where there is day light.
temperature	The measure of how hot or cold something is.
hot	If it is hot , the temperature is high.
cold	If it is cold , the temperature is very low.
warm	When there is some heat but not enough for it to be hot .
freeze	When it freezes outside, the temperature falls below 0 degrees.
ice	Ice is frozen water.
frost	When the ground becomes covered in ice crystals.
snow	soft white bits of frozen water that fall from the sky in cold weather .
rain	Rain is water that falls from the clouds in small drops.
sunny	When the sun is shining brightly.
windy	When the wind is blowing
hibernate	Animals that hibernate spend the winter in a deep sleep.
migrate	When animals move to a different part of the world during a particular season .

Diagrams and Symbols:

