

Nova's Autumn Science Flashcards

Learning objective: To understand the seasonal changes in the UK, focusing on plant life cycles, animal behaviour, and the changing daylight hours during autumn.

Read the front of the card to test your knowledge of autumn science. Flip the card mentally (or check the answer provided) to see if you are correct. Nova the owl wants to know how much you have learned about the season!

What is the main reason deciduous trees lose their leaves in autumn?	What is the green pigment in leaves that helps plants make food?
To conserve water and energy when there is less sunlight available for photosynthesis.	Chlorophyll.
Why do leaves change colour from green to yellow, orange, or red in autumn?	What is the term for when animals, like some birds, move to warmer climates to find food during winter?
As the days get shorter, the chlorophyll breaks down, revealing other pigments that were hidden all summer.	Migration.
What is hibernation?	During autumn, does the number of daylight hours increase or decrease in the UK?
A state of deep sleep where an animal's body processes slow down to save energy during the cold winter months.	Decrease.
What happens to the temperature in the UK as we move from autumn into winter?	Name one animal that might gather and store food, such as nuts or seeds, to prepare for winter.
The average temperature drops as the Earth's axis tilts the Northern Hemisphere away from the Sun.	A squirrel (or a similar small mammal).
What is 'dormancy' in plants?	At what time of year does the Autumn Equinox occur, when day and night are roughly equal in length?
A period where a plant's growth and development slow down significantly to survive harsh winter conditions.	Late September.
How do fungi often react to the damp, cool conditions of autumn?	What is the role of a seed in the plant life cycle during autumn?
They grow more rapidly and release spores to reproduce.	Seeds are dispersed to the ground to wait for the right conditions to germinate in the spring.