

## Autumn: The Season of Change with Nova the Owl

Get ready to explore the golden season—let nature's transformation amaze you!

- **Why do deciduous trees lose their leaves?** As sunlight decreases, trees enter a state of dormancy to conserve energy and water during the colder months.
- **How do animals prepare for winter?** Some animals, like hedgehogs, prepare to hibernate, while others gather and store food supplies to survive the lack of resources.
- **What is migration?** Many bird species fly thousands of miles to warmer climates where food is easier to find, returning only when the spring arrives.
- **What role does temperature play?** As the temperature drops, the chemical processes inside plants slow down, signalling that it is time to drop leaves and protect the tree's core.
- **How does autumn affect life cycles?** Autumn is a peak time for seed dispersal; many plants drop acorns, conkers, and berries to ensure new growth can begin when the soil warms up again.

*Did you know? Did you know? Trees do not actually 'die' in autumn! When the daylight hours get shorter, trees stop producing chlorophyll, which is the green pigment that helps them make food. Without the green colour, the hidden yellows, oranges, and reds finally show through, creating the beautiful autumn display we see in our parks and forests.*

**Key vocabulary:** deciduous · chlorophyll · hibernate · migration · dormancy · photosynthesis