

Design Technology: The Seasonal Feast Challenge

Learning objective: To understand the benefits of eating seasonal produce and design a menu that celebrates local, British ingredients.

Read the passage below and use the prompts to structure your persuasive menu design. Think like Max the monkey, who loves to calculate the best value, and Bea the honeybee, who knows the importance of nature's natural cycles. Ensure your writing includes reasons for your choices and explains how your dish supports the environment.

Eating food that is in season is a fantastic way to enjoy delicious, fresh ingredients while helping our planet thrive.

Word bank: sustainably sourced · harvested · locally grown · peak flavour · carbon footprint · consequently · furthermore · in addition to · environmentally friendly

1. Introduction: Describe your seasonal meal and explain why it is important to eat food at the right time of year. Start with: 'My chosen seasonal dish is... because...' (2 marks)

2. Ingredient Analysis: Identify three ingredients in your dish and explain why they are perfect for this specific season. How do they taste different compared to out-of-season produce? (3 marks)

3. Environmental Impact: Justify why choosing local, seasonal produce is better for the environment than importing food from far away. Use the word 'consequently'. (3 marks)

4. Economic Value: Max the monkey wants to know the price. If your seasonal meal costs £4.50 to prepare for two people, what is the cost per person? Show your calculation. (2 marks)

5. Comparison: Compare and contrast a strawberry grown in a heated greenhouse in winter versus one grown outdoors in a British summer. Which is more sustainable and why? (3 marks)

6. Critical Thinking: What might happen if everyone in the UK only ate food imported from across the globe? Explain the potential consequences for British farmers. (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Design a 'Seasonal Calendar' poster for your kitchen. Research which vegetables are harvested in each season and illustrate them. Write a persuasive slogan to encourage shoppers to buy British-grown, seasonal produce.