

Nova's Autumn Discovery

Learning objective: To identify and describe the changes that occur during the season of autumn.

Read the text carefully with Nova the owl. Then, answer the questions below. Use the word bank to help you spell tricky words.

Autumn is a special time of year. Nova the owl watches the forest change as the temperature drops. The days become shorter and the nights grow longer. In the woods, many trees are deciduous, which means they lose their leaves before winter. During the summer, leaves are green because they are full of a substance called chlorophyll. As autumn arrives, the trees stop making food. The green colour fades away, and the leaves turn bright shades of red, orange, and gold. On the ground, the fallen leaves crunch underfoot. While the trees prepare to rest, many animals get busy. Some birds fly to warmer places to find food; this is called migration. Other animals, like hedgehogs, prepare to hibernate, which means they will sleep through the cold winter months. Autumn is a busy time for nature. Nova loves to watch the leaves dance in the wind before they land on the soft, damp earth. It is a time of change for every living thing in the forest.

Word bank: deciduous · chlorophyll · migrate · temperature · hibernate · seasons

1. What does 'deciduous' mean according to the text? (2 marks)

2. Name two things that happen to the weather or daylight during autumn. (2 marks)

3. Why do you think the leaves change colour from green to orange and red? (2 marks)

4. Why do some birds choose to migrate during autumn? (2 marks)

5. Nova says autumn is a 'busy time'. Do you agree? Explain your answer using an example from the text. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a forest in autumn. Include a tree with orange and red leaves, and show one animal getting ready for winter.



Extension challenge: Nova wants to know: what is your favourite season? Write two sentences explaining why you like it best.