

# Nova's Autumnal Observations: A Scientific Report

*Learning objective: To describe the changes in the natural world during autumn and explain the life cycles of deciduous trees.*

Use the writing frame below to help Nova the owl report on the seasonal changes occurring in the woods. Use the word bank to help link your scientific ideas together.

As the days grow shorter and the temperature begins to drop, the woodland landscape undergoes a remarkable transformation.

*Word bank: consequently · furthermore · deciduous · chlorophyll · dormancy · photosynthesis · in addition · due to · significantly*

**1. Introduction: Describe the changes in daylight hours and temperature. Start by saying: 'As autumn arrives, the amount of sunlight decreases, which affects the environment by...' (2 marks)**

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**2. The Colour Change: Explain why leaves change colour. You could write: 'Inside the leaves, the green pigment known as chlorophyll begins to break down, revealing...' (3 marks)**

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**3. Life Cycles: Explain why deciduous trees lose their leaves. Start with: 'Trees shed their leaves to survive the winter because...' (3 marks)**

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**4. Animal Adaptation: How do animals in the woods prepare for the colder weather? You might include: 'To prepare for the winter months, woodland creatures such as...' (2 marks)**

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**5. Conclusion: Summarise why autumn is a vital part of the tree's life cycle. You could finish with: 'In conclusion, the autumn season is essential for the tree because...' (2 marks)**

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*Extension challenge: Research a specific tree found in the UK, such as an Oak or a Beech. Write a short paragraph explaining how its seed (acorn or mast) is dispersed during autumn.*