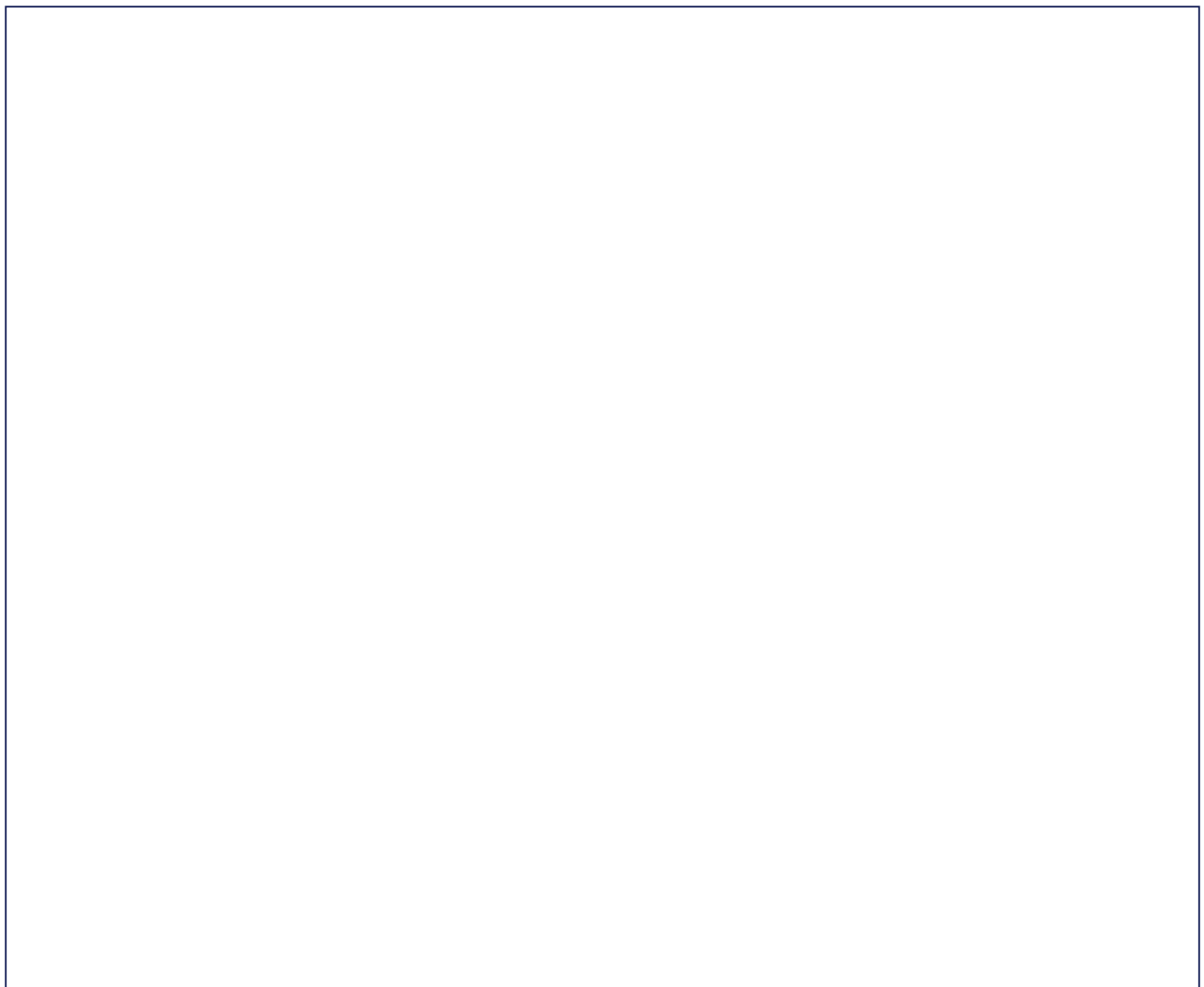


Fall Nature Journal: A Seasonal Science Study

Learning objective: To observe and identify the characteristics of seasonal changes in plants and trees during fall.

Follow the drawing prompt to create your own fall scene. Use the word bank to label the key features of your drawing that show how nature prepares for winter.

Draw: Create a detailed scientific sketch of an fall woodland scene. In the center, draw a large oak tree that is beginning to lose its leaves. Use a variety of warm colors (oranges, yellows, and browns) for the leaves. Include a close-up circle in the corner of your page showing the detail of a single leaf's veins. In the background, draw a squirrel or a bird like Nova the owl to show animal activity. Your drawing style should be clear and neat, like a field biologist's notebook entry.



Label words: deciduous · chlorophyll · dormancy · photosynthesis · seed dispersal · nutrient cycle

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a large deciduous tree. Show some leaves still on the branches and some falling to the ground. Label the 'deciduous' tree and two different leaf colors.
2. Step 2: Draw a small pile of fallen leaves beneath the tree. Explain in one sentence why these leaves are important for the soil during winter.

3. Step 3: Nova the owl is watching from a branch. Draw Nova and label an example of 'seed dispersal' nearby, such as an acorn or a conker.
4. Step 4: Why do leaves change color in fall? Consider what happens to the 'chlorophyll' in the leaves.
5. Step 5: Define 'dormancy' in your own words and explain how it helps a tree survive the cold winter months.