Nova’s Autumn Observation Log

Learning objective: To identify and describe the changes in the natural environment during the autumn season.

Nova the owl has been watching the woods change as the weather gets colder. Look at the list of changes below and sort them into two groups: 'Deciduous Trees' (what happens to the trees) and 'Wildlife' (what happens to the animals). Write the correct letter from the word bank into the matching category box.

Word bank: A: Leaves change colour to yellow, orange, or brown. · B: Some animals, like hedgehogs, prepare to hibernate. · C: Leaves fall to the ground to save energy. · D: Birds like swallows migrate to warmer countries. · E: Squirrels collect and hide nuts for the winter. · F: Trees become dormant and stop growing new leaves.

1. Deciduous Trees category: Write the letters of the statements that describe trees in autumn. (3 marks)

2. Wildlife category: Write the letters of the statements that describe animal behaviour in autumn. (3 marks)

3. Why do you think some birds choose to migrate to warmer countries instead of staying here for the winter? (2 marks)

4. Explain why trees might lose their leaves instead of keeping them all winter long. (2 marks)

5. If a squirrel collects 15 acorns and hides them in 3 different spots equally, how many acorns are in each spot? (Use your maths skills!) (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of an autumn scene including one deciduous tree losing its leaves and one animal getting ready for the colder weather.

Extension challenge: Go outside and find three different types of fallen leaves. Describe their shapes and colours in your science journal. Why do you think they are different colours?