Nova’s Autumn Nature Explorer Fact-File

Learning objective: To observe and describe the seasonal changes that occur during autumn, focusing on plants and animal behaviours.

Join Nova the barn owl on an autumn walk! Fill in this fact-file by observing the signs of the season in your local park, garden, or school grounds. Use your senses to describe the changes you see.

Word bank: deciduous · evergreen · hibernation · migration · photosynthesis · chlorophyll · dormant · temperature

1. Leaf Colours: Find two different leaves that have changed colour. Describe their colours and explain why you think they have changed. (3 marks)

2. Temperature Check: Is the air feeling warmer or colder than in summer? How does this change affect the clothes you wear today? (2 marks)

3. Animal Activity: Choose one animal you have seen or heard (e.g., a squirrel, a bird, or an insect). What is it doing to prepare for the winter months? (3 marks)

4. Plant Life: Look for a tree that has lost its leaves and one that has kept them. What are these types of trees called? (2 marks)

5. Autumn Conclusion: If you were a woodland animal, what would you need to collect or do before the first frost arrives? (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Research one animal that goes into hibernation during the winter. Write three facts about how they stay safe and warm while they sleep.