

Starters for Science: Y1 Seasonal changes

Starters for Science are 4 activities that parents can use at home to help children develop their science alongside the key learning and vocabulary children are using at school. The activities are easy to resource and provide children with the stimulus to learn and talk about their science topic. Encourage children to use the correct vocabulary as they talk about what they are doing and finding out. Don't forget to share your work on social media

#ScienceFromHome

Key Learning:

The United Kingdom experiences 4 seasons, Autumn, Spring, Summer and Winter.

Each of the seasons has differences in weather and day length.

Winter months in the UK are usually rainier and colder than Summer months. Summers tend to be hotter and drier. There may be snow in the Winter.

Day length is longest in the Summer. It peaks at mid-summer when the UK day length can be 16 hours. After mid-summer the days get shorter until mid-winter when the day length is only around 8 hours. After mid-winter the day length increases again until mid-summer.

The seasons also have other noticeable changes. In the Autumn, leaves on deciduous trees will change colour and fall off. Seeds and plants grow more in Spring and Summer. Young animals are more abundant in the Spring.

The clothes people wear also tend to vary according to the season. Warmer clothes in Winter and cooler clothes in the Summer.

Vocabulary:

seasons
seasonal change
Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter
weather
sun
sunshine
rain
snow
sleet
ice
frost
fog
cloud
hot
cold
storm
night
day
sunrise, sunset

Signs of the season

What season is it? Take a walk outside and note down as many signs of that season as you can. You might want to look at the weather, people's clothes and any plants and animals you see.

Make a rain gauge

Get some help to make a rain gauge from a plastic bottle <https://www.science-sparks.com/weather-make-a-rain-gauge/>.

Record the amount of rain you get over a week in a table. After a week, can you make a graph with the data you collected? Keep recording the amount of rain for a week each month. Do you notice any differences?

Photo journal

Ask your parents to help you take a photograph of a nearby view. Try to include some trees and other plants. The picture might be from a window in your house, your street or of the local park. Take that same picture once a month so you end up with 12 photographs. Compare them. How are they the same and different? Why is that?

Weather diary

Start a weather diary. Can you see any patterns after a week, month, season? Keep it going for as long as you can and compare the weather at different times of the year. Can you see any differences?