



Year 1/2 Science Knowledge Organiser: Seasonal Change – Autumn to Winter



Subject specific skills

- Observe changes across the four seasons.
- Observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies.

Misconceptions

- It always snows in winter
- It is always sunny in the summer
- There are only flowers in spring and summer
- It rains most in the winter.

Prior Learning

- Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal. (Nursery – Plants & Animals, excluding humans)
- Explore the natural world around them. (Reception – Seasonal changes)
- Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside. (Reception – Seasonal changes)
- Understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them. (Reception – Seasonal changes)

Key knowledge

Autumn 	September October November	Spring 	March April May
Winter 	December January February	Summer 	June July August

Key Vocabulary

Seasons: There are four seasons each year, autumn, winter, spring and summer.

Autumn: In autumn, the weather begins to get colder. The leaves fall from the trees. The amount of daylight becomes less. This means the daytimes are shorter and the night times are longer.

Winter: In winter, the weather is much colder. Sometimes it is cold enough to freeze, leaving frost and ice on the ground. It sometimes snows. Many trees have bare branches as all their leaves have fallen off. The daytimes are the shortest in the year and the night times are the longest.

Weather: The weather includes the temperature outside, the wind direction and strength, as well as rain, cloud, snow and sun.

Daylight: Daylight is when it is light outside. The amount of daylight changes with each season.

Harvest: The season for gathering crops.

Hibernate: Hibernation is a way that some animals deal with the harshness of winter.

Sleet: Frozen or partly frozen rain

Blizzard: A powerful snowstorm

Hail: small lumps of ice and snow

Frost: Frost is ice that is formed when water vapour freezes onto a surface.

Migrate: Some animals migrate to places where they can hibernate, or rest for the winter.

Key Knowledge

Daylight hours

Month	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug
Hours of sunlight	13	11	9	8	8	10	12	14	15	16	16	14

Migration, adaptation and hibernation in animals

