

▶ The Four Seasons



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What Is a Season?

Is the weather the same all year long? In most places on Earth, the weather changes with the seasons. A **season** is a time of year.

There are four seasons.
Which is your favorite?

spring



summer



One year has four seasons. The seasons are spring, summer, fall, and winter. The next year we have the same seasons. The order is the same. They form a pattern.



SEQUENCE What season comes after winter?

fall





winter



Spring

Spring is the season after winter. In spring, the weather is warm. It may rain a lot. There are more hours of daylight in spring than in winter.

 Plants get more warmth, light, and rain in spring. They may grow new leaves. They may grow flowers, too.

 Many plants begin to grow in spring.





|| In spring, deer feed on new plants.

|| New plants are food for many animals. It is easy to find many kinds of food in spring. It is a good time for animals to have their young.




MAIN IDEA AND DETAILS What is the weather like in spring?

Summer

Summer is the season after spring. It is warmer in summer than in spring. Summer has many hours of daylight.

▶ The heat in summer helps plants grow. Many plants grow fruits.

▶ In summer, young animals can find lots of food. They grow bigger.



▶ It is summer and the berries are ready to eat!



▶ In summer, animals find ways to stay cool.

▶ It may be very hot in summer. Animals find ways to stay cool. Some cool off in water.

▶ Some animals lose fur so their coats are lighter! People wear lighter clothes to stay cool.

Fast Fact


Elephants flap their ears to stay cool in hot weather.




MAIN IDEA AND DETAILS Name ways summer is different from spring.

Fall

The season after summer is **fall**. There are less hours of daylight in fall than in summer. Fall is cooler than summer. People wear heavier clothes in fall to keep warm.

 In some places, leaves on plants change color and fall to the ground. Fruits get ripe. People pick the fruits and eat them. Animals eat the fruits too.



 Leaves on some trees change color in fall.

🔊 Squirrels stay busy in the fall, storing food for winter.



🔊 In fall, some animals store food to eat in winter. Other animals migrate. Animals that **migrate** move to new places to find food.



Fast Fact


Sometimes squirrels forget where they stored their food. When they can not find the seeds they stored, those seeds grow into new plants.




CAUSE AND EFFECT Why do some animals migrate?

Winter

Winter is the season after fall. Of the four seasons, winter has the fewest hours of daylight. Some places are very cold in winter. Snow may fall. People in cold places wear heavy clothes.

 Many plants have no leaves in winter. Some plants stay green. Many plants die. Some plants stay alive but do not grow until it is warm again.

 When it is cold, food can be hard to find. Some animals eat food that they stored in fall. Some go to sleep until spring!



MAIN IDEA AND DETAILS What happens to plants in winter?









▶ Pine trees stay green even in winter.





▶ Summary

A year has four seasons. The seasons are spring, summer, fall, and winter. Weather changes over the seasons.

Glossary

-  **fall** The season after summer where the air begins to get cooler (3, 8, 9, 10, 11)
-  **migrate** To move to a new place to find food (9)
-  **season** A time of year. A year has four seasons. (2, 3, 11)
-  **spring** The season after winter where the weather gets warmer (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11)
-  **summer** The season after spring that is usually hot (3, 6, 7, 8, 11)
-  **winter** The season after fall that is usually cold (3, 4, 10, 11)

Think and Write

-  **1.** Tell what you know about spring.
-  **2. SEQUENCE** What are the four seasons? Name them in order.
-  **3. MAIN IDEA AND DETAILS**
Name ways spring is different from fall.
-  **4.** Write a story about an animal on a winter day.

Hands-On Activity

With a partner, make four drawings.
Show plants in each season.

School-Home Connection

Tell a family member what you have learned about the four seasons. Talk about what animals do in each season.