

## Key Facts

A simple flower has petals and contains a single set of reproductive organs at the centre, such as a buttercup or lily. Many common flowers that children are familiar with are compound. Compound flowers appear to be single flowers, but the 'flower' itself is actually made up of numerous small flowers or 'florets' arranged within a flower head. Daisies, dandelions and sunflowers are good examples of this.

It is acceptable for young children to use the broad term 'flower' to describe both simple and compound flowers.

The two main functions of roots are to absorb water and dissolved nutrients, and to secure the plant in the ground.

Birds belong to the bird group. There are 23 species of British birds in the UK. British birds all have the same features. They are all warm blooded and have feathers, a tail, a beak and wings.

Birds have feathers to keep warm in cold weather. They make their nests in trees and lay eggs.

There are 4 seasons in a year. They are called Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer. As the weather changes, the leaves on the trees changes colour or fall off. Also, people wear different items of clothing.

The Autumn seasons falls between September to November and Winter falls between December and February.



## Science

### Year 1

## British birds, plants and seasons



## Vocabulary

Word	Definition
Bird	A warm blooded animal with a beak, feathers, wings that is able to fly.
Feathers	Long, light and soft objects that cover a birds body.
Warm blooded	An animal that can keep their body temperatures higher than their surroundings.
Trees	A type of plant that has roots, a trunk, branches, twigs and leaves.
Evergreen	A plant that has green leaves throughout the whole year.
Deciduous	A plant that sheds land grows new eaves, depending on the season.
Root	A part of a plant that grows under ground. Its function is to absorb water and nutrients from the soil.
Trunk	A part of a tree that holds it up.
Leaves	Leaves are the part of a plant that absorb sunlight to make food for the plant.
Stem	A stem is the part of a plant that keeps the plant standing up.
Seasons	The changes in weather over the year. There are 4 seasons in total.
Autumn	The season from September to November where the leaves change colour and the weather gets colder.
Winter	The seasons from December to February where the leaves fall off the trees. During this season, there is rain, strong winds and even snow.

### Common misconceptions:

- Many children have a concept of 'plant' that does not include trees. They may perceive that plants are small scale and can be grown only in pots.
- Trees are seen as a separate grouping. This can also sometimes be true of grass. Children may not recognise that the school field is covered with plants
- Many children may think that all British birds visit during Winter. Specific British birds can be seen in different seasons.

### Knowledge and Understanding:

#### Children will learn to:

- The emphasis within this term must be on first-hand experience; children exploring and investigating what is familiar and that they see every day around them, such as garden plants, wild plants and trees in school grounds or close by that they can observe first-hand themselves.
- Children look closely at familiar garden plants and wild plants growing in and close to their school, and become increasingly aware of the enormous variety that there is. They are introduced to the names of some common varieties of wild and garden plants, including trees, and begin to make simple comparisons. They learn the simple names of parts of a plant that most plants have in common, and observe and describe a variety of very different examples, such as flowers of contrasting size and shape and roots of different types and structures.
- Children will look at British birds. They may be able to recognise some birds already. They learn to label the different parts of a birds body that most British birds have in common.. Children will also be observing common British birds outdoors and will begin to compare the physical features of different birds.

### Key skills and concepts:

#### Children will be able to:

- Children observing closely, identifying and classifying, and comparing and contrasting.
- Children use simple vocabulary to describe their observations and to identify similarities and differences, and group the evidence they collect in different ways, sometimes using criteria provided by their teacher and sometimes developing their own criteria, with support and where appropriate.



### Key Questions

What can we see and hear that shows us the seasons are changing? Do all trees lose their leaves in winter and grow new ones in spring? (2 part lesson)

How does the weather change across the seasons?

How do the changing seasons affect me?

What are the key features of birds?

How many birds visit our bird feeding station?

How do plants grow and change over time?