



Winter

Many countries across the world experience four different seasons. These are **spring**, **summer**, **autumn** and **winter**.

Winter is the coldest of them all.



• Weather in Winter

The sun sets early in the afternoon and rises late in the morning during the winter.

This means that the nights are long and the days are short. Both night and day can be very cold and have freezing temperatures that result in ice, hail or snow.

Ice and snow can make travelling more difficult in winter but building a snowman can be fun!

Nature in Winter



Many trees drop their leaves in winter. Oak trees and beech trees drop their leaves and are left bare. Evergreen plants keep their leaves all year round.

Holly and ivy are two plants that often look their best during the winter.

Animals survive the winter in different ways, such as hibernating or migrating. Hibernating animals rest during the winter. These animals wake up from their **slumber** and begin the search to find food when the milder weather of spring arrives.



Did You Know...?

Many countries around the world do not experience a winter.

Tropical countries lying close to the equator have a very different climate.

They might have a rainy season and a dry season but no winter. It is usually warm every day in these countries.

India and Thailand are close to the equator.



Animals that hibernate include:

• queen bees



• tortoises



• hedgehogs



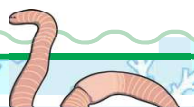
• frogs



Migrating animals move to warmer countries in order to survive and some birds fly great distances. Swifts live in the UK in the summer. They migrate to Africa when it is the winter in the UK because Africa is a warmer country. It's a long way and they have to fly over France and Spain to get there. Some mammals and insects also migrate.

Amazing Animals

- The monarch butterfly of North America migrates south to Mexico. Some travel more than 3000km or 1800 miles to reach their destination.
- The humble earthworm migrates a much smaller distance. They dig about two metres down into the soil!



Questions

Winter

1. What are spring, summer, autumn and winter? Tick one.

- ☐ four different seasons
- ☐ four cold seasons
- ☐ four types of weather
- ☐ four months

2. Look at the **Amazing Animals** section.

How far do monarch butterflies migrate? Tick one.

- ☐ Some migrate south to Mexico.
- ☐ Some migrate about two metres into the soil.
- ☐ Some more than 3000km.
- ☐ Some migrate south to Africa.

3. Fill in the missing word.

During the winter, the sun sets _____ in the afternoon.

4. Find and copy the names of two plants which often look their best in

winter. 1. _____

2. _____

5. What makes animals wake up after hibernation?

6. Would you prefer to live in a tropical country or a country with four seasons? Explain your answer with reasons from the text.

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- ☐ A country with four seasons

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During the winter, the sun sets **early** in the afternoon.

4. Find and copy the names of **two** plants which often look their best in winter.

1. **holly**

2. **ivy**

5. What makes animals wake up after hibernation?

When the milder weather of spring arrives, animals wake up after hibernation.

6. Would you prefer to live in a tropical country or a country with four seasons? Explain your answer with reasons from the text.

- ☐ Tropical country
- ☐ A country with four seasons

Pupils' own responses, such as: I would prefer to live in a tropical country because I don't like winter and I would like to have warm weather all through the year. I would prefer to live in a country with four seasons because I like experiencing the different seasons. Building a snowman in winter is my favourite.