



# KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

SCIENCE: OUR CHANGING WORLD

YEAR TWO

## KEY KNOWLEDGE:

QUESTION 1: What is a habitat?

### ANSWER

A **habitat** is a home environment for plants and animals or other organisms. Examples of habitats include: Desert, Meadow, Woodland, Grassland, Forest, Seashore, Ocean

A **micro-habitat** is a very specific, small home environment for plants, animals and insects. Examples include: Ponds, Individual trees, Under a stone, A pile of logs

QUESTION 2: How do habitats change through the year?

### ANSWER

**Habitats** rarely stay the same. In spring and summer, plants appear and grow; as it gets colder, many plants die off and lose their leaves. Over longer periods of time, some species disappear, and new species may take their place. Sometimes the actions of people can change habitats. Natural areas are often removed or paved over for building, gathering resources, or may be destroyed by foot travel or by vehicles.

QUESTION 3: How do animals adapt to winter?

### ANSWER

#### Hibernate

Hibernation is like a very deep sleep. Animals hide away in a den or burrow. Their body temperature and heart rate slow down. This helps them to save their energy. Hibernating animals wake up in spring when the weather is nicer and there is more food around.



#### Migrate

Would you like to go somewhere hot for the winter? That's what migrating animals do. When the weather starts to get cold migrating animals fly or swim to a warmer place where they can find food.

#### Adapt

Animals that adapt to the cold weather often change their appearance. They grow warmer fur or feathers and sometimes change colour. Some animals change colour to camouflage themselves against the snow. These animals can find food in winter, even though there isn't much food around.





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QUESTION 4: How do plants and trees change through the seasons?

ANSWER

There are differences in weather, length of day light available and plant life during seasons.

- In Autumn as the light becomes less the leaves change colour and fall off trees.
- In Winter we have colder weather, sometimes snow and frost. The trees have no leaves and the amount of daylight is very low.
- In Spring it becomes warmer and trees begin to grow their leaves and plants start to flower.
- In Summer the weather is at its warmest, trees have full green leaves and plants flower.