

Seasonal Changes



Objective

Observe changes across the four seasons.



Equipment

- Enrich School Orienteering Maps
- Clip boards and pens
- Seasonal Changes Activity Sheets



Preparation

- Divide the children into small groups and provide each of the groups with a clip board containing a seasonal changes record sheet, a marker pen and an Enrich School Orienteering Map.
- Discuss the map's main features e.g. areas that are out-of-bounds, start and finish point, which areas to visit when they are making their observations.
- Discuss with the children which things they might look for or observe in the school grounds which give an indication of what season it is, or of the change between seasons (ie they should look for living things, such as trees and plants, rather than man-made or inanimate objects).
- Discuss which senses they use to experience weather (e.g. they may see clouds, hear the wind, feel warm or cold etc).



Instructions

- First, children work together to plot a safe route that they will follow around the school grounds
- As they follow their route, they complete their Seasonal Changes Activity Sheet.
- If a group finds or observes something that matches one of the colours on their Activity Sheet, they record a 'tally' underneath that colour (and if possible make a note of its location on the map).
- They also use their Activity Sheet to record their observations about the weather and temperature e.g. wet, sunny, windy, warm, cold etc.
- Different children within the group should take it in turns to lead the group and record the group's observations.
- The children / groups must start and finish the activity in the same location.
- When the groups have had an appropriate amount of time to carry out the activity, they then see how many things they found that matched the colours on their Activity Sheets and which observations they recorded about the weather.
- Encourage the different groups to talk about their findings, prompting the conversations with these sample questions;
 - *What colours did you see?*
 - *What was the weather like? Wet / Dry, Windy / Calm etc*
 - *How bright / warm was the sun?*
 - *What is the temperature like? Warm / Cold*
 - *Did you hear or see any wild life? Birds, insects etc*



Other information

This activity enables children to compare their environment over different seasons. At least two sessions should be delivered during contrasting seasons throughout the year e.g. summer and winter, or autumn and spring so that children can compare the information that they collected on each occasion.

