

Seasons

Topic

Seasons

Aims

To develop and practise:

- vocabulary: words connected with seasons
- curricular work: the seasons
- integrated skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing

Age

Primary (7–11 years)

Time

90 minutes approximately

Materials

1. Colourings: 'Spring', 'Summer', Autumn' and 'Winter'
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/colouring/spring>
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/colouring/summer>
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/colouring/autumn>
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/colouring/winter>
2. Song, activity sheet, answers and lyrics: 'The leaves on the trees'
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/songs/the-leaves-the-trees>
3. Story, activity sheet, answers and transcript: 'The lazy bear'
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/short-stories/the-lazy-bear>
4. Reading practice: 'Seasons'
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/reading-practice/seasons>
5. Your turn: 'Seasons'
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/your-turn/seasons>
6. Craft activities: 'Spring hat', 'Autumn decoration' and 'Snowflake'
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/crafts/spring-hat>
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/crafts/autumn-decoration>
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/crafts/snowflake>
7. Large pieces of paper for posters (stage 6)
8. Green card, yellow paper, paper plates and paints or colours for summer craft (stage 7) – optional

For a complete list of all 'Seasons' content on LearnEnglish Kids, click here:

<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/category/topics/seasons>

Introduction

In this lesson, learners will look at different features of the seasons. They will listen to and sing a song, and watch a story about the changing seasons. They will think about words and ideas connected to the different seasons or do a reading activity to find out more about the seasons. Then they will work together to produce a poster. Finally learners can complete a craft activity and play a game.

Procedure

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| 1. Introduce the topic (5 mins) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a large copy of one of the seasons colouring pictures. Read the sentences as a class and ask volunteers to come and colour in different items. Ask learners if they know the other seasons of the year. Can they tell you what season it is now? |
| 2. Sing a song (15 mins) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display the activity sheet for the song 'The leaves on the trees' on the board. Complete the first activity as a class. • Give learners the activity sheet and ask them to complete the second activity as they listen – putting the pictures in order. Play the whole song then check answers. • Read the sentences for each picture together. Can they tell you which season each picture represents? • Ask learners if they can remember the actions that the children in the song were doing for each season. Play the song again, encouraging learners to sing along and do the actions. • Display the third activity on the board and talk about each picture. Can they remember from the song what's happening in each picture? Read the instructions under each picture and then hand out the activity for the learners to colour. |
| 3. Watch a story (10 mins) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show learners a picture of a bear. Elicit what animal it is, and ask learners what they know about bears. Ask learners if they know what season bears sleep, or that they sleep all winter. • Tell learners they are going to watch a story about a bear who sleeps a lot. Ask them to watch the story 'The lazy bear' and tell you in which season Bruno the bear wakes up. Play the story and check answers. • Play the story again. Stop at different points during the story. Ask learners to tell you what season it is. Encourage them to explain how they know, for example they know it's winter because there's snow. |
| 4. Focus on vocabulary and ideas for younger learners (20 mins) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write the names of the seasons on the board. Ask learners to tell you things associated with the season you chose for the colouring activity, referring back to the picture for ideas. Write their suggestions on the board. • Elicit ideas for the other seasons, for example 'butterfly' for spring, 'sun' for summer, 'falling leaves' for autumn or 'snow' for winter. Write their suggestions on the board. • Now ask learners to tell you what Bruno the bear was doing in the story (sleeping). Ask learners what season bears usually do this (winter) and write 'bears sleep' (or 'hibernate') next to winter. • Now elicit or feed in some more ideas about other animal behaviour in different seasons. Use the song and story to help. For example, birds make nests in spring, bees make lots of honey in summer, squirrels hide their nuts in autumn, some birds migrate in winter, many animals are born in spring, etc. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give learners the third activity on the worksheet from 'The lazy bear'. Explain they need to draw a simple picture for each season and write about it. They can use the ideas and vocabulary on the board to help them. Monitor and help as necessary. |
| 5. Reading practice for older learners (20 mins) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write the names of the seasons on the board. Ask learners to tell you some things associated with the different seasons. Use the song and the story to help. Write their ideas on the board. • Give learners exercise 2 on the 'Seasons' reading practice activity sheet. In groups, ask them to guess or predict the answers. • Now give them the reading text. Ask them to read and check or complete exercise 2, underlining in the text where they found the answers. Monitor and help as necessary. Check answers as a class or by playing the online game under the reading text. Was there any information in the reading text about the different seasons that was the same as their ideas which were written up on the board? • What do they think is the most interesting 'fun fact' from the reading text? As a class, discuss the questions in exercise 4 of the activity sheet. |
| 6. Project work (20 mins) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divide learners into four groups and assign each group (or they choose) a season. • Explain that each group is going to make a poster for their season. The learners in each group should decide what things they will have on their poster and who is going to draw what, for example one learner can draw a tree, one learner can draw a squirrel with nuts, etc. Give learners paper to do this. Then give learners a large piece of paper and they can cut out and stick their drawings on the paper to make a poster. They should label the items in English and write sentences to say what is happening, for example 'The leaves are falling from the tree.' Finally, they can each write a sentence on their poster saying what they can do during their season, for example 'In winter you can make a snowman.' Monitor and help as necessary. • Display the posters around the room and let the learners look at each other's work. Have whole class feedback on which is their favourite season and why, for example 'I like summer because you can go to the beach.' |
| 7. Craft activity (15 mins) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your learners enjoy crafts, you could decide to do a seasonal craft activity. • There are spring, autumn and winter crafts on LearnEnglish Kids. If your learners want to do a summer craft activity, they could make a sunflower, using rolled up green card for the stem, a small paper plate painted yellow with black dots for the seeds and handprints cut out of yellow paper to go around the paper plate as petals. |
| 8. Setting homework (5 mins) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learners can watch the story or listen to the song again at home. If they are members of LearnEnglish Kids, they can also read the comments on the 'Seasons' Your turn or 'Seasons' reading practice and then leave their own. |

Contributed by

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