**Winter scavenger hunt** Aged 3-6: answers

**Frozen puddle**

**Is the water beginning to melt? Why?**

In temperatures above 0°c the ice will melt, and it will turn back to water.

Find out more: [STEM Learning video](https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/elibrary/resource/28231/melting-and-freezing)

**Tree or plant with green leaves or needles**

**These trees are called ‘evergreen’. Why do you think this is?**

Their leaves (foliage) stay the same colour all year round and do not change colour.

Find out more: [Twinkl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7h5TiPevd-Q)

**Looks at the different parts of the tree, can you name them?**

Leaves, branches, trunk, roots.

Find out more: [IET resource](https://education.theiet.org/primary/teaching-resources/leaf-is-a-wonderful-thing/)

**Bird of prey**

**What do you think this bird eats?**

Small mammals (mice, voles) and smaller birds

Find out more: [RSPB Kids](https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-kids/)

**Frost**

**In which season do we usually see frost?**

Winter

Find out more: [IET Seasons resource](https://education.theiet.org/primary/teaching-resources/dryads-diary/)

**The moon**

**When can you see the moon in winter? What time is it?**

You can see the moon when it is dark but you can also see the moon during the day too depending on it’s phase. Sometimes it is a small crescent and sometimes full.

Learn about the moon: [Twinkl](https://www.twinkl.co.uk/search?q=moon)

**Can you name anything else in our solar system?**

Planets: The Sun, Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto (Pluto is classed as a Dwarf planet). Our solar system is called The Milky Way.

Find out more: [Stargazing activity](https://education.theiet.org/primary/teaching-resources/stargazing/)

**Squirrel**

**What do you think squirrels eat?**

Squirrels are not picky eaters and eat lots of different things found in nature: nuts, seeds, fruit, grains, vegetables, roots and bulbs.

Find out about UK wildlife: [RSPCA activities](https://education.rspca.org.uk/education/teachers/earlyyears)

**Where do you think you are most likely to find squirrels?**

Woods and gardens! They sleep in tree nests, but do not hibernate.

Find out which animals do hibernate: [Flashcard activity](https://education.theiet.org/primary/teaching-resources/which-animals-hibernate/)

**Seed pods**

**How do you think these seeds might disperse or be carried around?**

Bees, insects and animals carry them from plant to plant on their bodies while they look for food. Light seeds are carried on the wind. Sometimes, people pick them and plant them in different places.

Grow your own plant from seed: [Home activity](https://education.theiet.org/primary/teaching-resources/home-grown/)

**Snow**

**Does the weather have to be warm or cold for snow?**

Cold. The perfect air temperature is between 0°c and 3°c for snow to fall but the ground temperature needs to be 0°c or lower for the snow to settle when it lands.

Make a snow globe: [Home activity](https://education.theiet.org/secondary/teaching-resources/snow-place-like-home/)

**A tree that has lost its leaves**

**Why do you think some trees lose their leaves in the autumn?**

Trees need sunlight which they capture through their leaves. When there is less sunlight in winter, the tree can’t use the leaves as much until the spring. It is cold and takes energy to protect the leaves during winter. Deciduous trees shed them to use less energy and regrow them anew the following spring.

Keep a diary of a tree: [Dryad’s Diary](https://education.theiet.org/primary/teaching-resources/dryads-diary/)