

How Do Organisms Change with the Seasons?

Science Words

Say each word quietly to yourself. Then read the meaning.

Read the tip to help you remember.

dormancy [DOR•muhn•see] a rest period for plants

Dormancy, dorm, and dormitory are in the same word family. A dorm or dormitory is a place where students and others rest and sleep. During winter, many plants are in a period of *dormancy*, or rest.

hibernation [hy•ber•NAY•shuhn] in animals, an inactive state during winter—a period of little food and cold temperatures

Hibernation and *heart* begin with the same sound. During *hibernation* the heart barely beats and body temperature drops to just about freezing.

migration [my•GRAY•shuhn] in animals, the process of regularly moving as a group from one region to another and back

Migration and *move* begin with the same sound. During *migration* animals move from the place they live during the summer to their winter home and then back again.

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Science Concepts

Read the Ideas more than once. Do your best to remember them.

1. During winter, there is less direct sunlight, fewer hours of daylight, and lower temperatures.
2. During summer, there is more direct sunlight, more hours of daylight, and higher temperatures.
3. In winter, plants are dormant; they do not grow or reproduce.
4. In fall, the leaves of many trees change color and then fall to the ground.
5. Some animals hibernate during the winter.
6. During hibernation, an animal's heart beats very slowly and its body temperature is very low.
7. A hibernating animal doesn't need to eat because it is not using very much energy.
8. A hibernating animal uses the fat stored in its body for energy.
9. Some animals, like the arctic fox, change color with the seasons in order to blend in with their changed surroundings.
10. In winter, manatees and other animals migrate south to find food and to have their young.