

Theme: Seasons of the Year

First: **Short introduction** [slide 2]

Next: ***Demeter and Persephone - [Fiction text - myth]*** [slides 3- 9]

- **watch, read** and/or **listen** to and **talk about.** [[Video on the website](#)]
- **answer questions** to check understanding
- + **writing task** using storytelling language.

[slides 10 - 15]

Then: ***Advice on Visiting London***

[Higher Challenge - *Non-fiction text*] [slides 16-17]

- **read** and **discuss** [[video on website](#)]
- **identify + list** Facts + Advice [slides 18-19]

Finally: **My Favourite Season?**

- writing **expressing a personal opinion** [slide 19-21]



What are we learning in this pack?

Learning Focus: We are focusing on thinking about what happens when the seasons change. We will be practising skills reading fiction + non-fiction texts.

First Fiction: Demeter and Persephone

[A famous myth from Ancient Greece.]

Next Non-Fiction: Visiting London

[Advice about the weather to American visitors]

Finally: Writing- Expressing a Personal Opinion

Focus: Explaining in detail giving examples.

Setting Context: [Myth – short fiction text]

Can you name the four seasons of the year? What months belongs to which season?

[Make a quick note then check at the end of the story to see if you got it right.]

Do we need to cold of Winter so that we can fully enjoy the warmth of Summer? Can we enjoy the beauty of Spring when nature wakes up without the glorious colours Autumn brings when nature gets ready for Winter. The one thing we all know is that the seasons change, each brings different weather which makes different things happen in the world around us. We now understand science a little bit more and how our planet works but a long, long, long, long, LONG time ago – even before your teachers were born! 😲 – people didn't. So they made up stories which got passed down from one generation to the next and are still told today. We call these stories myths. All around the world in different countries and cultures people have tried to explain what they saw happening around them. This time we are focusing on a story that is about the changing of the seasons.

Each season has its place and is part of the cycle of life on this planet. Each new season makes us look again at the world around us.



myth = a story which was made up long ago to explain natural events and religious belief.

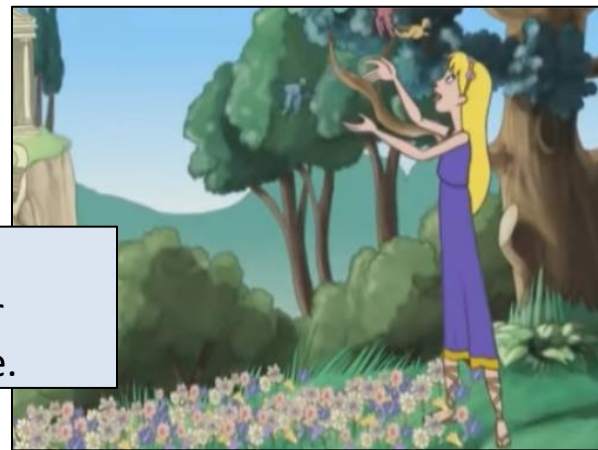
generation = all the people born and living at one time *for example in families grandparents, parents, children.*

'Persephone, Demeter and Hades' a myth from Ancient Greece. **Watch, talk about and then read.** Focus: Following a story sequence, understanding key points in a story, practising reading.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rnxdvWF8Mp4&safe=active>



Demeter –
Goddess of the Harvest
Made all good things grow.



Persephone –
Demeter's daughter
loved by all of nature.

Mrs Sugden has recorded this story if you want to read along.



Hades –
God of the Underworld
Had everything he wanted but
was very lonely.

So... One day he **stole** beautiful **Persephone** and took her down into his underworld kingdom.



Ancient Greece = 776 BC – 323 BC **Gods & Goddesses** = in ancient Greece there were 12 that were worshipped: Zeus, Hera, Poseidon, Hades, Aphrodite, Apollo, Ares, Artemis, Athena, Hephaestus, Hestia, Hermes (also sometimes the list included Demeter, Dionysus).

Demeter was the goddess of the harvest who made all good things grow. The wheat for bread, the fruits and vegetables and all living things.

Whenever she visited her fields she would bring her daughter Persephone with her. Persephone was lovely and graceful and wherever she danced, flowers sprang up at her feet and birds followed in her path. She was happy and loved all living things.

But, deep down in the earth in the cold, gloomy world where living creatures did not belong lived the god Hades. Hades had all the servants and jewels a king could hope for but one thing he did not have was a queen.

Hades had heard of the beautiful Persephone and so one day when she was out in the fields picking flowers all alone, he decided to take his chance.



Suddenly the ground began to crack and shake and with a roar like thunder Hades' chariot pulled by four enormous horses sprang up from under the ground. He quickly grabbed poor Persephone and swept her up into his chariot and carried her down into his underground realm leaving hardly a trace of what had happened...



Down in the underworld kingdom Hades gave Persephone sparkling jewels, robes, a crown and her very own throne. But it was so cold and dark that she became sad and silent and no matter what was offered to her, she refused to eat.



Back on Earth, Demeter frantically searched for her beloved daughter. “Persephone! Persephone!” she called.

As the days passed Demeter missed her daughter and became sad. Now, wherever she walked the fields turned brown and the leaves fell off the trees, ice covered the ground and nothing grew.



Now high up on Mount Olympus the great god Zeus noticed what was happening on Earth and didn't like what he saw. “Things have to grow, people have to eat,” he said. He called his messenger Hermes and told him to go and tell Hades that he had to set Persephone free – RIGHT NOW!



Persephone was so happy but Hades was not. He thought of a cunning plan to keep her in his kingdom.

Hades pretended to be helpful and offered Persephone some food to eat before she started her journey home. This might sound like a kind thing to do but it was a trick! Hades knew that if she ate the food she would be bound to his kingdom forever.

Persephone did not know this and ate some pomegranate seeds before leaving. Hades calmly waved goodbye while hiding a secret smile. He knew that she would now have to return to him.





Demeter was overjoyed to have her daughter back again. The fields sprouted wheat, the flowers bloomed and birds sang. It looked like it had always been. But when Persephone told Demeter about eating the pomegranate seed that Hades had given her she became sad again.

Zeus was watching and knew that Persephone had to go back to Hades but he also knew that Demeter would never get over the loss of Persephone but the rule had to be obeyed. But Zeus was king of the gods and that is not something you get to be unless you're very good at solving problems.

“Persephone will have to go back,” Zeus told Demeter, “But not forever, just for part of the year. One month for every seed that she ate. I promise you that she will return each year.”





And that's how the change of season is said to happen.

Every year when it was time for Persephone to return to Hades Demeter missed her so much that the wind turned cold, the flowers died and the birds flew away and it was winter again.

But as Zeus promised, Persephone did return and when she did the flowers blossomed, the trees bore fruit, the wheat grew and the whole world sang with joy because it was glorious springtime once again.



Check your understanding – answer these questions: One has been done for you.

Top Tip: Some are ‘find it’ questions = you can find the answer in the story; some are ‘work it out’ questions = you need to use information in the story and work out the answer like a detective e.g. The giant was crying. Q. How did the giant feel? A. The giant was sad.

1. Who was Demeter?

Demeter was Persephone’s mother and the goddess of the harvest.

2. What good things did the goddess of the harvest make happen?

3. Who was Persephone?

4. What magical thing happened wherever Persephone danced?

5. Who is Hades and why is he unhappy?

6. How did Hades steal Persephone?

7. Did Persephone like living in the Underworld with Hades? Why?

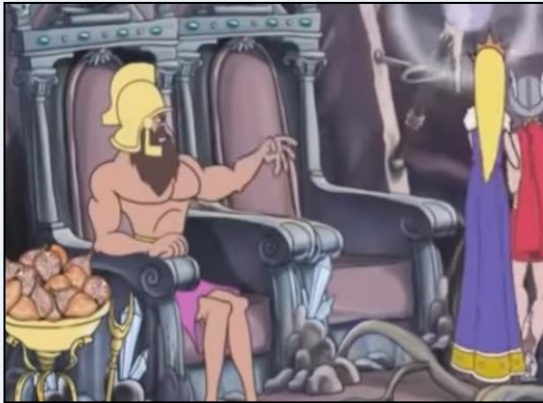
8. Demeter was sad without her daughter. What happened because she was sad?

9. The great god Zeus 'didn't like what he saw' happening on Earth – Why?

10. What was the name of the god Zeus told to take his message to Hades?

11. Explain how Hades tricked Persephone so she would have to come back to the Underworld?

12. Use the picture sequence below to re-tell the final part of the story in your own words.
Focus: Use storytelling language. Remember to use full stops and capital letters for names.



12. Continued...



The answers I promised you at the start! Did you get it right?

Can you name the four seasons of the year?



What months belongs to which season?

Spring (March, April, May)

Summer (June, July, August)

Autumn (September, October, November)

Winter (December, January, February)

Tell someone four things that happen in each season?

Think about the weather

What happens to the plants and trees

What happens to the animals and creatures in the UK



Short Reading Task Higher Challenge: [Non-fiction] **Advice to Americans who want to visit London about the weather. What is the advice? Have they got it right?**

Carefully read the following information *then* have a go at answering the question.

London's weather is known for being quite unpredictable. In fact, Londoners regularly carry both sunglasses and an umbrella throughout the year! But London's weather is never so extreme as to take away from all the great things to do in the city.

The hottest month of the year is normally August when the top temperature can be 30 C but the average temperature in August is about 22 C. The coldest month is usually January when temperatures can sink to around 1 C F. Snow is pretty rare in London but if it does fall it's typically in January or February. Some rail services can be affected by bad weather conditions. Don't forget to check before you travel if the weather forecast says it is going to snow.

London is a year-round destination, so major attractions will be open whenever you visit. There's typically an increase in visitors in July and August so it's best to plan a trip at a different time of the year to avoid overcrowding.

In general, London's weather is mild year-round, but just remember to pack a lightweight raincoat to keep in your backpack. The seasons change gradually and winter can appear to still be hanging on when it should be spring, but the weather is never so bad to stop you from planning to get out and about.



Spring 48° to 57° F

- Weather is unpredictable with occasional frosts.
- Pack a rain jacket and umbrella.



Summer 61° to 66° F

- Driest season but thunderstorms are still common.
- Pack light clothes and umbrella.

London's Average Weather by Seasons



Fall 50° to 63° F

- Late fall is the wettest time of year.
- Pack layers, a light scarf, and umbrella.

tripSavvy



Winter 41° to 45° F

- Typically mild with occasional snowfall.
- Pack a warm coat and winter accessories.

List 3 FACTS the writer tells his readers about the weather in London..



List 2 bits of advice the writer tells his readers about visiting London.

Extended Writing Task Higher Challenge: [Non-fiction] **What is your favourite time of the year? Explain why.** *[If you're not sure there is an example for you to read first.]*

Focus: Explaining your thoughts in detail giving examples to explain why. Remember to use full stops and where capital letters should be.

My favourite season is winter because I love wearing my soft, cosy jumpers and snuggling up inside watching the wind and storms outside. I hate it when the weather is too hot and don't mind the cold. I actually enjoy walking in the rain with my dog and getting wet and muddy! Also, I always hope that it will snow, it's exciting waiting to see if it will – and when it does making snowmen and throwing snowballs with my friends is the best. Winter also has Christmas! I love the pretty lights shining in the dark skies in the town, helping decorate my home and enjoying an enormous, delicious Christmas dinner with my family.

Add a drawing [illustration]:

My Favourite Season of the Year.