

# Seasons

## What do animals do in the fall?

Changes occurring in the fall tell animals that winter is coming. So they spend much of their time getting ready. Creatures like the chipmunk gather up food. They also eat more to gain fat so they can stay warm.

Not all animals live at home for the winter. Some, like the caribou and arctic tern, leave at this time. They travel long distances to find warmer weather.

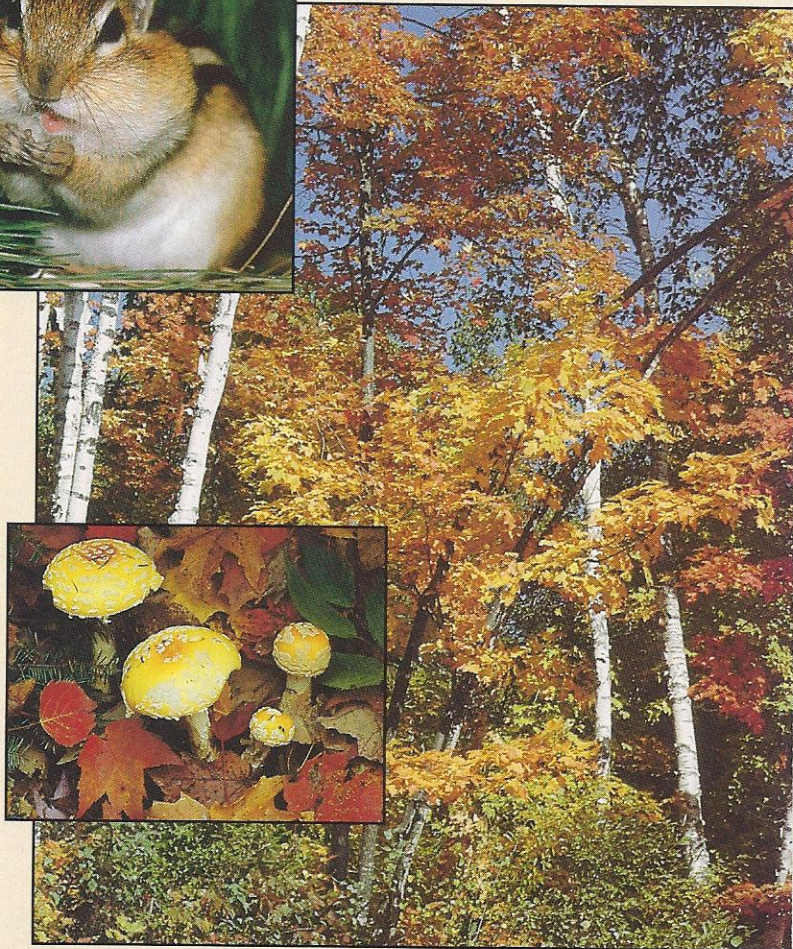
## What else happens in the fall?

During fall, the sun does not rise as high in the sky as it did in summer. Without that kind of direct sunlight, the days become shorter and cooler. This cooling brings about changes in both plants and animals.

## Why do leaves change color in the fall?

All during the summer, the leaves use green stuff called chlorophyll to make food. In the fall, with less sunlight, the leaves cannot produce food for the tree. So water and nutrients no longer travel into them. Instead, all the tree's food stays in the branches, trunk and roots.

The green chlorophyll begins to disappear. When it is gone, colors that were hidden begin to show up. At the same time, the stem of the leaf turns dry, and the leaf falls off its branch.



## What does the Bible say about the seasons?

God's Word has a lot to say about the seasons. After all, He made them! In the Bible the word "season" is mentioned at least 50 times. The book of Ecclesiastes says, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven . . ." (3:1).

The seasons come and go, following the same pattern each year. God made the earth a very orderly place. Look around and you can see Him in it all! □

