



SEASONAL OBSERVATION ACTIVITY RECOMMENDATIONS



WINTER:

- 1) Go to a sledding hill or build a snowman when it snows outside.
- 2) When the temperature falls below zero, boil a pot of water with the help of an adult. After the pot is boiling, throw it into the air. What happens to the once scolding water?
- 3) Notice how difficult for birds to find food when the ground is frozen. Hang feeders in your yard to help.
- 4) Witness the lack of animals in the forests during the cold months and research whether certain animals leave due to hibernation or migration.
- 5) Take note of the trees that retain their leaves throughout the winter. Is there something specific about the trees that preserve their leaves?
- 6) Take a hike when temperatures are below freezing and notice the difference when you don't hear running water because it is frozen. Can you see your breath?
- 7) Cut down your own Christmas tree. Notice how not all trees leave their leaves in the winter.
- 8) Try to dig in the dirt in the winter. Are you able to dig a hole when temperatures are below freezing?
- 9) Build a snow sculpture. How long does it take to melt?
- 10) Notice when there are school delays. What kinds of conditions are present when a school delay occurs?



SPRING:

- 1) Adopt a tree. Check to see how long it takes buds to appear. How long does it take the leaves to grow?
- 2) Mother's Day is a good indication of the frost-free date in Ohio. Take note of when it's safe to plant flowers outside.
- 3) Go on nature walks to observe the plethora of new colors released from the budding plants.
- 4) Plant seeds in your garden. What happens after a few weeks of water and sunlight/heat?
- 5) Keep a rain gauge in your garden. Observe the fluctuating amounts of rain water throughout the spring months.
- 6) Watch the news for tornadoes or storms around the central US. Are tornadoes most abundant in the spring or another season?
- 7) Observe and keep track of the morning sunrise time until it get to Daylight Saving Time. What special thing do we do to the time on Daylight Saving?
- 8) Go on a worm walk after it rains. How many can you find?
- 9) Keep tab of various bugs and animals you see throughout the season. What causes all of these bugs and animals to come out of hiding?

10) Set out bird and squirrel feeders and watch to see how many visit each day.



SUMMER:

- 1) Paint with water in the sun. How long does it take for the water to disappear as the temperature climbs throughout the day?
- 2) Go puddle stomping. Is the water much warmer in the summer than it was in the spring?
- 3) Count the different kinds of bugs you find in the summer months as you dig in the dirt and turn over rocks.
- 4) Flowers are in bloom. Use them in art projects or in fairy houses.
- 5) June 21 is the longest day of the year. Be an early bird or a night owl and track the amount of daylight.
- 6) Go wading in a creek or stream. Look for life in the water. Watch for plants growing in the water, fish swimming by or dragonflies flying by.
- 7) Have a campfire. You are actually seeing part of the carbon cycle at work.
- 8) Spend a day in the sun with the protection of sunscreen. Did your complexion seem to change with the help of the sun?
- 9) Host a picnic in the forest with your friends and family. Trees provide great shade spots from the blistering sun. Are any bugs joining the picnic?
- 10) Pick flowers and make a bouquet. Do any of the flowers you selected grow back?



FALL:

- 1) Visit a pumpkin patch or apple orchard to pick your own seasonal produce.
- 2) Observe the changing leaf color from green to a spectacle of warm colors. How many colors do you see?
- 3) Take healthy leaves and put them under a piece of paper; then, lightly brush a crayon over the top of the paper. What appears in the end?
- 4) Beavercreek, College, and Professional Football are in full swing. Go with your family to a game or watch one at home. Do you need jackets or blankets as the temperatures start getting cooler at night?
- 5) Make scarecrows as an art and craft activity. Why do farmers use scarecrows in the first place?
- 6) Rake fallen leaves to a pile and jump in. Watch how the piles grow in size throughout the season.
- 7) Attend an apple cider event at a local Greene County Park. Learn how it's made and try some too!
- 8) Crumble up fallen leaves and use them to glue on paper or just play with in a bucket on rainy days. Notice the difference between the dead, fallen leaves and the pine needles still on trees.
- 9) Take note of freeze warnings and frosts. Are the plants in gardens still growing or starting to turn brown?
- 10) Attend Evergreen's Autumn Celebration with your child. We take hayrides, use rakes, find gourds, and enjoy the delicious fall flavors in a special snack.