

**Science**  
**Unit 3: Seasons and the Water Cycle**

<b>Essential Understandings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Predictable cycles influence life on earth.</li> </ul>
<b>Essential Questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What is a season?</li> <li>▪ What are the four seasons?</li> <li>▪ What is the cycle of the seasons?</li> <li>▪ What is the water cycle?</li> </ul>
<b>Essential Knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A year is divided into four parts called seasons.</li> <li>▪ The four seasons are: winter, spring, summer, fall.</li> <li>▪ The weather of each season depends upon where you live.</li> <li>▪ The weather changes with the seasons.</li> <li>▪ The temperature changes with the seasons.</li> <li>▪ Evaporation, condensation, and precipitation are part of the water cycle.</li> <li>▪ Scientists use tools to conduct investigations, gather data, and answer questions.</li> <li>▪ Scientists use evidence to develop and communicate outcomes.</li> </ul>
<b>Vocabulary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Terms:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ spring, summer, fall, autumn, winter, season, cycle, thermometer, temperature, precipitation, condensation, evaporation, water cycle, observe,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Essential Skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify the four seasons of the year.</li> <li>▪ Identify the cycle of seasons.</li> <li>▪ Describe how weather changes with the seasons.</li> <li>▪ Classify months according to their season.</li> <li>▪ Describe how the seasons follow a cycle.</li> <li>▪ Identify that air temperature changes with the seasons.</li> <li>▪ Tell how evaporation, condensation, and precipitation are part of the water cycle.</li> <li>▪ Ask questions and seek answers from reliable sources.</li> <li>▪ Plan and conduct an investigation using appropriate tools.</li> <li>▪ Use data to develop and communicate outcome.</li> </ul>

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<p align="center"><b>Related Maine Learning Results</b></p>	<p><u>Science</u>            B. The Skills and Traits of Scientific Inquiry and Technological Design            B1. Skills and Traits of Scientific Inquiry            Students conduct and communicate results of simple investigations.            a. Ask questions and make observations about objects, organisms, and events in the environment.            b. Safely conduct simple investigations to answer questions.            c. Use simple instruments with basic units of measurement to gather data and extend the senses.            d. Know what constitutes evidence that can be used to construct a reasonable explanation.            e. Use writing, speaking, and drawing to communicate investigations and explanations.            D. The Physical Setting            D2. Earth            Students describe Earth’s weather and surface materials and the different ways they change.            a. Explain that the sun warms the air, water, and land.            b. Describe the way in which the weather changes over months.            c. Describe what happens to water left in an open container as compared to water left in a closed container.</p>
<p align="center"><b>Sample Lessons And Activities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Use the local newspaper and check the daily weather: check it for accuracy, predict next day weather.</li> <li>▪ Adopt a tree and observe seasonal changes.</li> <li>▪ Graph the weather.</li> <li>▪ Write about how the weather impacts your life.</li> <li>▪ After reading <u>The Seasons of Arnold’s Apple Tree</u> make a sponge painting of each season.</li> <li>▪ Observe water in an open container. (Scientific Investigation)</li> </ul>
<p align="center"><b>Sample Classroom Assessment Methods</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Make a season booklet.</li> <li>▪ Complete a diagram of the water cycle.</li> </ul>

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**Sample  
Resources**

- Publications:
  - Autumn:
    - Autumn Days - Ann Schweninger
    - Clifford's First Autumn - Norman Bridwell
    - Fall - Tanya Thayer
    - Fresh Fall Leaves - Betsy Franco
    - Red Leaf Yellow Leaf - Lois Ehlert
    - Why Do Leaves Change Color? - Betsey Maestro
  - Seasons:
    - The Seasons Of Arnold's Apple Tree - Gail Gibbons
    - A Tree For All Season - Robin Bernard
    - The Reasons For Seasons - Gail Gibbons
    - Four Stories For Four Seasons - Tomie de Paola
  - Spring:
    - Down Come The Rain - Franklyn Branley
    - First Comes Spring - Anne Rockwell
    - It's Spring! - Samantha Berger
    - Spring Changes - Ellen B. Senisi
    - Spring Is Here! - Mary Packard
  - Summer:
    - Bluebird Summer - Deborah Hopkinson
  - Weather:
    - Weather Words and What They Mean - Gail Gibbons
    - Who Cares About Weather - Melvin Berger
  - Winter:
    - Dear Rebecca, Winter Is Here - Jean Craighead George
    - The First Snowfall - Anne Rockwell
    - The Jacket I Wear In The Snow - S. Nietzel
    - Snow is Falling - Franklyn Branley
    - The Snowy Day - Ezra Jack Keats
    - Snowballs - Lois Ehlert
    - Winter Is Here! - Kimberly Weinberger
    - Wintertime - Ann Schweninger