



The Sun and Earth's Climate  
<http://beyondweather.ehe.osu.edu>

## **The Seasons and the Sun**

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We have four seasons on Earth. Can you name them?

Right! The four seasons are winter, spring, summer, and fall. Each season has different weather.

Winter is cold. It might snow or rain a lot.

Spring is warmer than winter. In some places spring is rainy.

Summer is warm, or even hot!

And fall is cooler than summer.

All of the seasons depend on the Sun. But what does the Sun have to do with the seasons?

The Sun's light shines on Earth. The light makes our air, land, and water warm.

The Sun shines on Earth every day. Even on cloudy days. But there isn't the same amount of sunlight in each season.

There are fewer hours of sunlight in winter. That makes it colder.

There are more hours of sunlight in summer. That makes it warmer.

Have you noticed the Sun today? Is it sunny outside? Or is it cloudy? Will it get dark early tonight?

Spring, summer, winter, or fall - the Sun makes a big difference for us all.

Flesch-Kincaid RL = 1.7