

Liam the Park Keeper

Meet Liam the park keeper

Do you like being out in the open air? Liam does! He works as a park keeper, which means he is outside all day long. He can listen to the birds and look at the beautiful trees and plants.



Liam the park keeper

Liam has to keep his areas of the park looking their best for visitors, especially the rose garden. It's a very demanding job, but Liam enjoys it.



This is the park where Liam works.

Liam's daily tasks depend on the weather and the time of year.

His main tasks include:

- clearing away dead plants
- getting rid of weeds
- digging the soil
- putting in new plants
- keeping bugs under control
- cutting shrubs and clipping hedges
- raking up leaves
- cutting the grass.



Raking up leaves

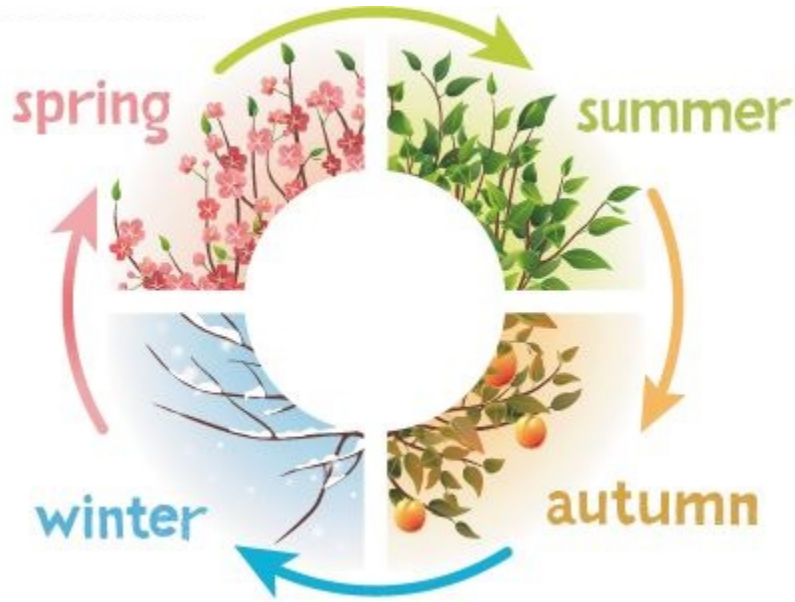


Bulbs ready for planting



Liam puts in new plants.

Through the seasons



Liam's jobs change throughout the seasons.

Liam's jobs change throughout the year. Spring is the time to care for the lawn and old flower beds. Flowers are planted in spring ready for summer. From spring until autumn, the grass needs to be cut once a week.

During summer, Liam's main job is keeping the displays looking their best. Flower beds are watered every day and weeded. As the flowers fade, Liam cuts away the old parts.

In autumn, Liam plants bulbs ready for spring. He collects fallen leaves and gives the lawn some well-needed treatment.

In winter, he digs over the empty flower beds to keep the soil in good condition. He also creates new beds. The winter frost helps to break up the soil.

What Liam likes about his job

For Liam, the very best part of being a park keeper is being outside. Liam likes being outside and being active. He would feel very restless if he had to sit at a desk all day. Gardening keeps him fit, too.

Liam likes planting things and watching them grow. Every day, he sees how the park's visitors enjoy the gardens, and this gives him a real sense of achievement. He also likes being able to enjoy the park quietly in his spare time.

Liam enjoys time with the other park keepers. They do many jobs as a team, and Liam likes being able to talk to the others while he works.



Liam works with the other park keepers.

What Liam doesn't like about his job

The weather can make Liam's job much harder. There's snow and ice in winter, and it rains most of the year round. Liam likes his job least in the middle of summer, when it can be almost too hot to do anything.

Another problem is that it can be dirty work. It's easy to get cuts and scratches from the roses and other plants, and there are itchy insect bites to worry about in the summer.



It can be dirty work.

(page 1)

1 Liam works...

Tick **one**.

outside all of the time.

at a desk when it is cold outside.

outside when it is sunny.

at a desk all of the time.

(page 1)

2 Which area of the park does Liam keep particularly nice for visitors?

(page 1)

3 Look at page 1.

Liam can find his work difficult.

Find and **copy one** word that tells you that Liam's work is difficult.

4 Look at page 2.

Liam's daily tasks can change. What **two** things can make his tasks change?

Tick **two**.

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| the team | <input type="checkbox"/> | the trees | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| the visitors | <input type="checkbox"/> | the weather | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| the season | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

5 *As the flowers fade...*

This means that the flowers...

Tick **one**.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| turn into weeds. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| become brighter in colour. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| begin to die away. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| are ready for planting. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

6 What does the winter frost help to do?

7 Look at page 4.

Being a park keeper is a good job for Liam. Why?

8 Look at page 4.

What makes Liam feel proud and gives him *a real sense of achievement*?

Tick **one**.

keeping fit and active

watching the shrubs and plants grow

working as a team with the other park keepers

watching visitors enjoy the gardens

- 9 Put ticks in the table to show which sentences are **true** and which are **false**.

Sentence	True	False
Liam does the same jobs every day.		
Liam always works alone.		
Liam sometimes cuts the grass and the bushes.		
Liam's work is often dirty.		