

# Why Do We Have Summer?

by Rachelle Kreisman



Summer starts on the longest day of the year. We call that day the summer solstice.

Summer days are warm and long. There is more sunlight. People spend more time outdoors.

Why do we have summer? Earth tilts as it travels around the sun. When Earth's northern half leans toward the sun, that part has summer.

Summer starts in the northern half of Earth around June 21. At that time, it is winter in the southern part of Earth. That is because the Earth's southern half is tilted away from the sun.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**1.** What is the summer solstice?

- A. The summer solstice is the hottest day of the year.
- B. The summer solstice is the longest day of the year.
- C. The summer solstice is the shortest day of the year.

**2.** The text explains why we have summer. Why do we have summer?

- A. Summer starts on the longest day of the year.
- B. Summer days are warm, long, and sunny.
- C. Earth tilts as it travels around the sun.

**3.** When the earth's southern half is tilted away from the sun, it is winter in the southern part of Earth. What season does the southern part of Earth have when it is tilted towards the sun?

- A. winter
- B. summer
- C. fall

4. What is "Why Do We Have Summer?" mainly about?

- A. why we have summer
- B. the northern half of Earth
- C. what summer days are like

5. What season is it in the southern half of Earth when people in the northern half have summer?

It is

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6. Please draw the earth as the northern half tilts towards the sun. Color the half of Earth which has summer red. Color the half of Earth which has winter blue.

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7. What did you learn from "Why Do We Have Summer"?

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**8. Class Discussion Question:** Use information from the text to explain why summer days are warm and long.

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