

SUMMER IN CANADA

Summer in Canada

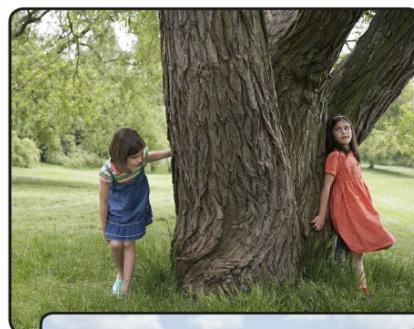
Summer in Canada begins on June 21 and ends on September 21. At the end of June, school is over and children happily run out of school cheering loudly. They are looking forward to their long summer holiday. Some children may spend summer at a cottage on a lake. Others may be travelling to other places in Canada to see the sights.

During the summer, days are long, hot, and sunny. Nights are shorter and warm. Sometimes there are rainy days with loud thunderstorms and flashing lightning.

Summer is a busy time for farmers. They must look after their crops that they have planted in fields. Farm animals such as cows, horses, goats, and sheep are seen munching on grass in fields. Flowers grow and blossom in gardens and along the sides of roads, making Canada bright and colourful. Butterflies and bees buzz happily around them.

There are many things children can do in the summer. They can swim in lakes and pools, go hiking along trails, ride their bikes, or play on a team in baseball or soccer. Some families enjoy going on a picnic at a park or fishing on a lake or at a stream.

Canada Day is celebrated on July 1 with parades, shows, and colourful fireworks. At the end of August, children are getting ready to go back to school in September. Holiday time is over and its time for learning to begin again.



READING LESSON

GRADES 2-3

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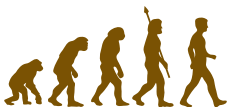
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TEACHING OBJECTIVES

STUDENTS WILL:

- read and become familiar with Canada, Canadian Symbols, Seasons in Canada, Special Celebrations, Canadian Animals, Canadian Reptiles, Canadian Birds, Famous Canadian Places, Famous Canadian People, and Canadian Sports.
- practise and review reading skills in an informal learning experience.
- use previously learned word attack skills to unlock vocabulary.
- practise reading and discussing information in a group.
- work independently while reading a nonfiction story and completing a follow-up activity worksheet.

TEACHING STRATEGIES:

The nonfiction stories and follow-up worksheets may be used in any of the following ways.

1. Reproduce the story sheet and its follow-up worksheet for the students to use to practise their reading skills at school or for homework.
2. Reproduce each story and its worksheet. Mount the information story on one side of a piece of stiff cardboard and the worksheet on the back of the same card. Laminate the cards. The cards could then be placed at a "Let's Read About Canada" centre. They could be put in one box labelled "Read About Canada" or placed in individual boxes labelled "Canada's Symbols", "Canada's Seasons", "Canada's Special Days", "Canadian Animals", "Canadian Birds", "Special Celebrations in Canada", and "Famous Canadians".
3. Each story could be used as a teaching tool. The story could be used on an overhead or on a white board. The students would read the story silently. Then the story's content and new vocabulary could be discussed. This would be a good time to practise fluency and expression during reading. Sentences could be read as a group or independently. Direct the students' fluency speed with your hand or a pointer. Practise reading the story several times. Oral reading should have the same flow as music.
4. If you feel your students will have difficulty with the new vocabulary, print the words on a chart prior to the reading and discuss them. Encourage your students to examine each one carefully. Ask any of the following questions.
 - Does the word have the same ending as another word that you know?
 - What does the beginning sound say?
 - Are there any vowels inside the word?
 - What do they say? Do they make the long vowel sound or the short vowel sound?
 - Is this word made of two words?
5. Some stories could be used to announce the beginning of a new season or the arrival of a special time or holiday in the Canadian year. The students could read the story and then discuss it. On a chart, brainstorm for other facts the students know about it.
6. The stories about Canadian Animals and Birds could be used as an introduction to a science lesson about birds or animals in Canada. Students could also brainstorm for the names of other Canadian animals or birds.
7. The stories in any of the sections could be collated with a cover to form a non-fiction storybook. The students could create an interesting picture for the cover under its name. **Example:** "All About Canadian Birds" or "All About Canadian Animals."
8. While reading about Canada and places to visit use a large political map that shows the provinces, territories, and their capital cities. Discuss the names of the political divisions, their capital cities and have the students locate each one. Discuss the compass rose and have the students tell the location of each province/territory. **Example:** Which province is east of Saskatchewan? (Manitoba)
9. These stories could be used during a social studies lesson on Canada.
10. Many of these stories about Canada could be used during indoor recesses as an activity.
11. Selected stories could be collated to make books about Canada.

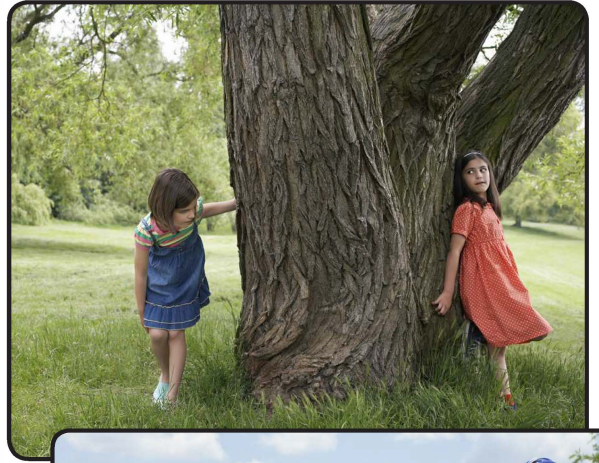


The following vocabulary lists for each story may have to be presented before each story is read by some students. Train them to use their phonetic skills effectively and efficiently.

STORY #4: SUMMER IN CANADA cheering,
forward, holiday, cottage, sights, thunderstorms,
lightning, munching, blossom, fireworks, parades.

Summer in Canada

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Summer in Canada

A Would these events happen during the summer?
Print "Yes" or "No" on the line at the end of each sentence.

1. Snowflakes gently fell on the rooftops of houses and on the streets. _____
2. The sun was brightly shining on the children swimming in the pool. _____
3. Squirrels and chipmunks were out collecting nuts and seeds in the snow. _____
4. Jeff knew that there was a thunderstorm coming when he heard the boom and the lightning flash. _____
5. The flowers were falling over and dying in the gardens. _____
6. Two teams were playing a baseball game at the park. _____
7. A family of four were riding their bikes out in the countryside. _____
8. Some people were having a picnic at a beach. _____

B A proper noun is a word that always begins with a capital letter. It names a person, place or thing.
Look in the story to find five proper nouns.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

C Sometimes words have double consonants in the middle. Look in the story for words that have a pair of double consonants.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____



ANSWER KEY

STORY #4: SUMMER IN CANADA

A. 1. No 2. Yes 3. No 4. Yes 5. No 6. Yes
7. Yes 8. Yes

B. 1. Canada 2. September 3. June 4. Canada Day
5. August

C. Possible Answers: summer, happily, cottage, travelled,
grass, blossom, butterflies, buzz, soccer, getting