

# The Summer Solstice

## Information & Worksheets



### The Summer Solstice



The summer solstice takes place on June 20 or 21 or 22. On this day the sun shines for the greatest number of hours. It is the longest day of the year and occurs exactly six months after the shortest day of the year, the winter solstice. During the summer, the Earth is tilted toward the sun thus receiving more sunlight. In Canada, the farther north you go, the more hours of daylight there are. The sun reaches its highest point above the horizon at noon on the solstice. No matter where you live in Canada, at noon on the solstice, your shadow will be the shortest it will be all year.

Summer is filled with many outdoor activities. Baseball teams are organized and the games begin. Pools are opened in backyards and children noisily jump and splash in the water. Families spend time at summer cottages where they swim, fish, water ski and go boating. Family picnics are held at parks or beaches. Children are sent off to summer camps to learn new skills such as canoeing, camping, sailing, and hiking. Summer is a good time to take a trip to parts of the country by car.

Festivals are popular in Canada. They celebrate the first appearance of local food. Berry socials, corn roasts and barbecues. Some festivals focus on skills and games such as rodeos and Highland games.

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# GRADES 4-6

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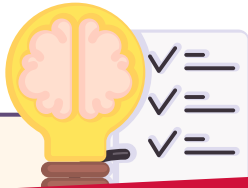
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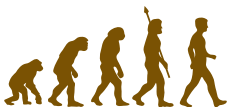
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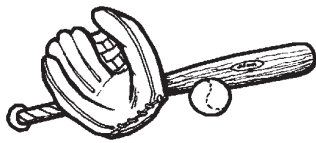
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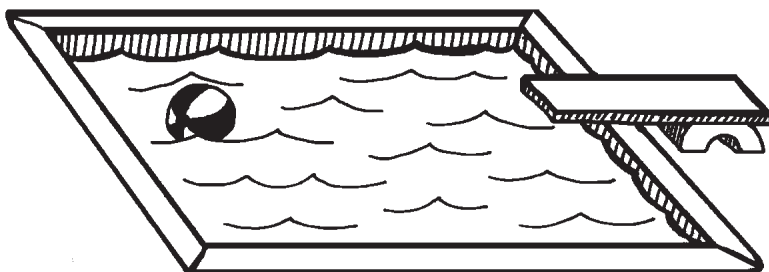
Summer festivals are popular in Canada. They celebrate the first appearance of local food. There are strawberry socials, corn roasts and barbecues. Some festivals focus on skills and outdoor activities such as rodeos and Highland games.

Did you know that:

- we get the most sun during June and July
- above the Arctic Circle the sun shines all day and all night, never leaving the sky during June and July
- summer is so short in the far north of Canada that the growing period for Arctic plants and animals is only a few brief weeks
- the Inuit who live in the Arctic call July “mosquito month”

Summer is a time to practice many safety rules while biking, swimming, boating and playing in the sun. Remember it is better to be safe than sorry!

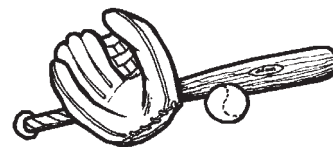
**Have a good summer!**



# The Summer Solstice

Read the information on the "Summer Solstice" to find out why we have summer.

Complete the following exercises.



a) Answer the following questions with complete sentences.

1. When does the Summer Solstice take place?

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2. Why do we receive more sunlight at this time of year?

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3. What part of Canada receives the most hours of daylight?

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4. What happens to your shadow on the day of the solstice?

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b) Summer is the time when we participate in many outdoor activities. Make a list of the many summer activities people participate in.

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c) During the summer there are many safe ways to participate in outdoor activities. Make a list of five good safety rules.

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d) How do you plan to spend your summer vacation? Write a good paragraph about what you plan to do.

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### **Summer Solstice**

- a)**
- 1.** June 20, 21 or 22
  - 2.** The earth is tilted towards the sun.
  - 3.** the northern part
  - 4.** It is the shortest it will ever be all year.
- b), c) & d)** – Answers may vary.