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Summer

Teacher's Guide



Visual Learning Company

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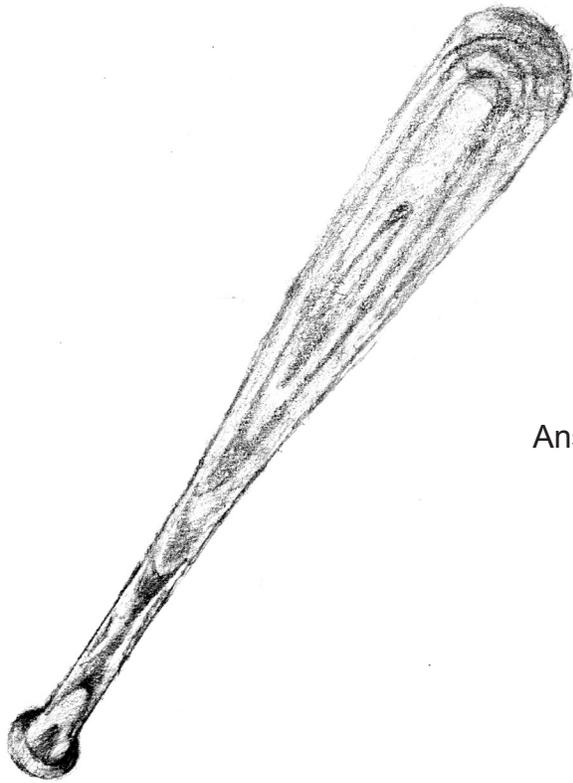
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ISBN 1-59234-660-8



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Student Learning Objectives

Upon viewing the video and completing the enclosed student activities, students will be able to do the following:

- Understand that a season is one of four periods during the year.
- Explain that the summer season follows the spring season.
- Describe the fact that summer has the greatest amount of warm weather of the four seasons.
- Explain that the sun rises early and sets late in summer. Therefore, generally speaking, the days are long in summer.
- Describe some of the characteristics plants possess in summer including the fact they grow tall, create flowers, and produce fruit.
- Understand that many animals spend a great deal of time eating and raising their young in summer.
- Define an adaptation as a characteristic that helps an animal or plant survive.
- List some of the activities that people enjoy doing outdoors during summer.
- Describe some of the activities that farmers carry out in the summer season.
- Understand that Earth's northern hemisphere is tilted toward the sun in summer. This enables a greater amount of sunlight to reach this part of Earth in summer, resulting in warmer temperatures.
- Explain that the beginning of summer begins on June 20th or 21st, and ends on September 20th or 21st.

Assessment

What Do You Know Now? (p. 10):

This preliminary assessment is an assessment tool designed to gain an understanding of students' preexisting knowledge. It can also be used as a benchmark upon which to assess student progress based on the objectives stated on the previous pages.

What Have You Learned? (p. 11):

This post assessment can be utilized as an assessment tool following student completion of the program and student activities. The results of this assessment can be compared against the results of the preliminary assessment to assess student progress.

Video Review (p. 12):

The Video Review can be used as an assessment tool or as a student activity. There are two sections. The first part contains questions displayed during the program. The second part consists of a five-question video quiz to be answered at the end of the video.

Introducing the Program

Before showing the video to students you may want to introduce some unfamiliar vocabulary words. Begin by asking them what time of year it is right now. They should say it is spring, summer, fall, or winter. Write these terms on the board. Then write the term “season” on the board. Explain that there are four seasons.

Tell students that the video they are going to view is about the summer season. Ask students to describe the weather in summer. Ask them what kinds of things happen with plants and animals in summer. And, ask them what things they like to do in summer. Tell students to pay close attention to the video to learn more about summer.

Key Vocabulary

Adaptations
Season

Axis
Summer

Crops
Sunlight

Earth
Vacation

Hemisphere
Weather

Program Viewing Suggestions

The student master “Video Review” is provided (p. 12) for distribution to students. You may choose to have your students complete this Master while viewing the program or do so upon its conclusion.

The program is approximately 10 to 12 minutes in length and includes a five-question video quiz. Answers are not provided to the Video Quiz in the video, but are included in this guide on page 9. You may choose to grade student quizzes as an assessment tool or to review the answers in class.

The video is content-rich with numerous vocabulary words. For this reason you may want to periodically stop the video to review and discuss new terminology and concepts.

Video Script

1. The weather on this day in April is cool and rainy.
2. The grass is just starting to turn green. Tree buds are beginning to come out.
3. But, on this day in mid-July the **weather** is hot. The flowers are tall and beautiful. And, many animals are caring for their fast-growing young.
4. This time of year is called **summer**. It is the summer **season**.
5. A season is one of four periods of the year.
6. The summer season follows the spring season.
7. What is the general weather like in the summer?
8. What going on with plants and animals at this time of year?
9. What kinds of things do people do in the summer?
10. And, what causes summer?
11. During the next few minutes we are going to answer these questions as we learn about the exciting season of summer.
- 12. Graphic Transition – What Happens in Summer?**
13. For many people, summer is their favorite season.
14. This is mainly because they like the overall weather of summer.
15. **You Observe!** Describe the weather in this scene.
16. The people on the beach are experiencing warm, sunny weather.
17. The summer season has the greatest amount of warm weather of the four seasons.
18. In summer the sun rises early and sets late in the day. This means there is lots of daylight.
19. Depending on where you live there can be a fair amount of rain in the summer...
20. ... or very little rain.
21. But, because the overall weather is warm, or even quite hot, exciting things happen to plants and animals.
22. Let's take a look at some of the things plants and animals do in the summer.
- 23. Graphic Transition – Plants and Animals in Summer**
24. This field is full of sunflowers. The seeds that were planted in the spring quickly grew into large sunflower plants.
25. **You Decide!** What does this tree produce in summer?
26. This tree produces edible fruit called apples. Many plants produce fruits and berries in summer.
27. Besides seeing many pretty plants summer is a great time for spotting wildlife. It's also a time when some animals you don't like, such as mosquitoes, are most annoying.
28. Animals that hibernate in the winter such as bears are busy eating.
29. During summer animals can eat more food because it is abundant and easy to find.

Video Script

30. Those that have young feed them or help them find food, enabling them to grow quickly.
31. In places where it is very hot and dry, animals have special **adaptations** to help them survive.
32. An adaptation is a characteristic or a behavior that helps a plant or animal survive.
33. For example, in the desert, some animals rest during the very hot daytime hours,...
34. ... and travel at night when it is cooler.
35. These are just a few examples of the many exciting things that go on with plants and animals in the summer.

36. Graphic Transition – People in Summer

37. If you love to swim in lakes,...
38. ... ride your bike,...
39. ... or hike in the mountains then you probably really enjoy summer.
40. Summer is a great season to do things outdoors that are not as easy to do during colder seasons such as winter.
41. Summer is also an important time of year for people to get things done in warm weather,...
42. ... such as building houses, constructing roads, painting things, or doing other kinds of outdoor work.
43. Farmers are especially busy in summer tending to their **crops**, cutting hay, and taking care of animals.
44. Summer is also a time when people like to take time off from work to go on **vacation**. It's a great time to enjoy warm weather activities such as boating, camping, or going to the beach.

45. Graphic Transition – What Causes Summer?

46. You probably know from playing in the sun on a hot day in July or August, that summer is the warmest season of the year.
47. But why is it so much warmer in summer than in winter? And, why are the days so much longer?
48. The answer lies in the position of planet **Earth** in relation to the sun.
49. As you may know, Earth has a spherical shape,...
50. ... similar to this ball.
51. In space, Earth is tilted at an angle on an imaginary line called an **axis**.
52. Believe it or not, as the Earth moves around the sun it's traveling at an amazing speed of nearly 108,000 kilometers per hour.
53. It takes Earth 365 days, that's a year, to orbit, or revolve, around the sun.
54. As Earth revolves around the sun, its axis is always tilted in the same direction.

Video Script

55. During this point in the year, the northern **hemisphere** is experiencing summer.
56. **You Observe!** Describe how the northern hemisphere is tilted.
57. It is tilted toward the sun. Therefore the northern hemisphere receives more **sunlight**, resulting in warmer temperatures.
58. June 20 or 21 marks the beginning of summer,...
59. ... and September 20 or 21 signifies the end of the summer season.

60. Graphic Transition – Video Review

61. During the past few minutes we've had fun exploring some of the exciting aspects of summer.
62. We began by investigating how the weather in summer tends to be warm, and the days long.
63. Some of the fascinating things that animals and plants do in summer were discussed.
64. We also took a look at some of the interesting things people do in summer.
65. Last, we explored how Earth's position relative to the sun causes the summer season.

66. Graphic Transition – Video Assessment

Fill in the correct word to complete the sentence.

1. The summer season has the most amount of _____ weather .
2. The days are _____ in summer.
3. An _____ is a characteristic or behavior that helps a living thing survive.
4. It is easier for animals to grow in summer because they can find _____.
5. In summer the northern hemisphere is tilted _____ the sun.

Literature Connections

Eckart, Edna. Watching the Seasons. New York: Children's Press, 2004.

Roca, Nuria. Summer. New York: Barron's Educational Series, 2004.

Low, Alice. Summer. New York: Random House, 1991.

Jackson, Ellen. The Summer Solstice. New York: Millbrook Press, 2003.

Teague, Mark. How I Spent My Summer Vacation. New York: Random House, 1997.

Answer Key to Student Assessments

What Do You Know Now? (p. 10)

1. spring
2. warm
3. adaptation
4. growing
5. fruit
6. abundant
7. greater
8. ice skating
9. toward it
10. June 20th or 21st

What Have You Learned? (p. 11)

1. greater
2. abundant
3. toward it
4. warm
5. growing
6. spring
7. ice skating
8. fruit
9. June 20th or 21st
10. adaptation

Video Review (p. 12)

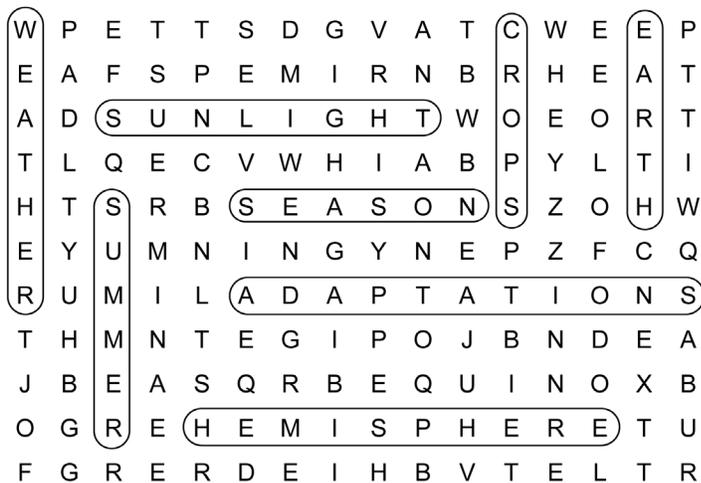
1. The people on the beach are experiencing warm, sunny weather.
2. This tree produces edible fruit called apples.
3. It is tilted toward the sun.

Video Quiz (p. 12)

1. warm
2. long
3. adaptation
4. food
5. toward

Answer Key to Student Activities

Word Find (p. 13)



What Should I Wear Today? (p. 15)



Writing About Summer (p. 14)

Answers will vary.

What Do You Know Now?

Name: _____

Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

1. Which season does summer follow?

- fall
- winter
- spring
- autumn

2. In summer the weather is mostly:

- warm
- cold
- frigid
- wintry

3. A characteristic or behavior that helps a living thing survive is called a(n):

- mutation
- gene
- adaptation
- defensive trait

4. During the summer season most plants do lots of:

- growing
- hibernating
- dormancy
- eating

5. Plants such as apple trees and strawberries produce the following in summer:

- carbon dioxide
- tadpoles
- fruit
- babies

6. In many places, animals eat lots of food in summer because it is:

- dormant
- scarce
- hidden
- abundant

7. The amount of daylight in summer compared to winter is:

- less
- the same
- shorter
- greater

8. What activity can you not easily do outside in summer?

- ice skating
- skateboarding
- gardening
- swimming

9. In summer, how is earth positioned in relation to the sun?

- away from it
- toward it
- below it
- above it

10. When does summer officially begin in the northern hemisphere?

- September 20th or 21st
- November 20th or 21st
- December 20th or 21st
- June 20th or 21st

What Have You Learned?

Name: _____

Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

- 1.** The amount of daylight in summer compared to winter is:
 - less
 - the same
 - shorter
 - greater
- 2.** In many places, animals eat lots of food in summer because it is:
 - dormant
 - scarce
 - hidden
 - abundant
- 3.** In summer, how is earth positioned in relation to the sun?
 - away from it
 - toward it
 - below it
 - above it
- 4.** In summer the weather is mostly:
 - warm
 - cold
 - frigid
 - wintery
- 5.** During the summer season most plants do lots of:
 - growing
 - hibernating
 - dormancy
 - eating
- 6.** Which season does summer follow?
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 - winter
 - spring
 - autumn
- 7.** What activity can you not easily do outside in summer?
 - ice skating
 - skateboarding
 - gardening
 - swimming
- 8.** Plants such as apple trees and strawberries produce the following in summer:
 - carbon dioxide
 - tadpoles
 - fruit
 - babies
- 9.** When does summer officially begin in the northern hemisphere?
 - September 20th or 21st
 - November 20th or 21st
 - December 20th or 21st
 - June 20th or 21st
- 10.** A characteristic or behavior that helps a living thing survive is called a(n):
 - mutation
 - gene
 - adaptation
 - defensive trait

Video Review

Name: _____

While you watch the video, answer these questions:

1. You Observe!

Describe the weather in this scene.

2. You Decide!

What does this tree produce in summer?

3. You Observe!

Describe how the northern hemisphere is tilted.

Video Quiz

After you watch the video, test your knowledge with these questions:

1. The summer season has the most amount of _____ weather.
2. The days are _____ in summer.
3. An _____ is a characteristic or behavior that helps a living thing survive.
4. It is easier for animals to grow in summer because they can find _____.
5. In summer the northern hemisphere is tilted _____ the sun.

Word Find

Name: _____

Find the following vocabulary words in the puzzle below.

ADAPTATIONS

CROPS

EARTH

HEMISPHERE

SEASON

SUMMER

SUNLIGHT

WEATHER

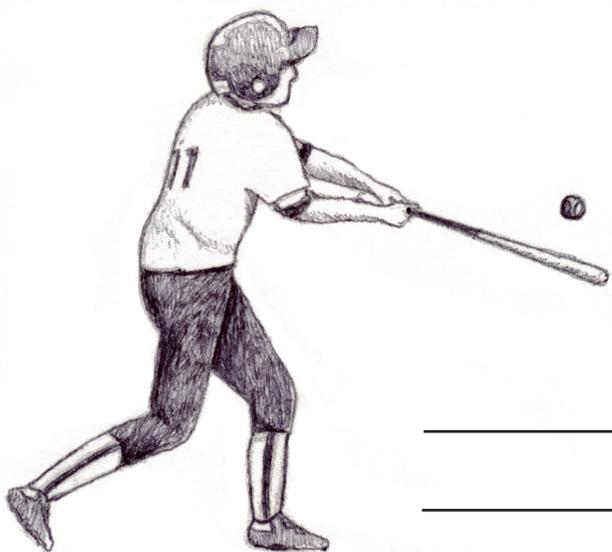
W P E T T S D G V A T C W E E P
E A F S P E M I R N B R H E A T
A D S U N L I G H T W O E O R T
T L Q E C V W H I A B P Y L T I
H T S R B S E A S O N S Z O H W
E Y U M N I N G Y N E P Z F C Q
R U M I L A D A P T A T I O N S
T H M N T E G I P O J B N D E A
J B E A S Q R B E Q U I N O X B
O G R E H E M I S P H E R E T U
F G R E R D E I H B V T E L T R

In the space provided below write three sentences about "Summer" using the vocabulary words listed above.

Writing About Summer

Name: _____

Summer is a great season to play sports. Maybe you enjoy playing baseball or softball. Or maybe you like other sports such as soccer or golf. Write three sentences about your favorite summer sport. Explain where you play the sport, who you play with, and why you enjoy it.



Many people enjoy spending time in nature in the summer. Some enjoy hiking, fishing, or camping. Describe an experience you have had in nature in a park, forest, or other natural area. Describe the plants and animals you saw, as well as anything else you thought was interesting.

What Should I Wear Today?

You live in Dallas, TX and the weather forecast is as shown to the right. Choose the appropriate pieces of clothing for today's weather. Draw a line from the correct piece of clothing to the person.

Name: _____

Dallas, TX
July 20th



High
93° F.
34° C.

Sunny

