

The Seasons



Monday 8th February

Learning Objective

Today we are learning about the seasons.

Success Criteria

I will be successful if:

- I can say how many days, weeks and months there are in a year.
- I can explain what 'orbit' is.
- I can explain how the seasons are caused by the Earth's orbit around the Sun.

Who do you agree with?



Northern hemisphere

Days, years and seasons



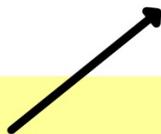
Southern hemisphere

What makes a year?

- A year is split into 365 days, 52 weeks and 12 months.
- The Earth orbits the sun once in a year.
- Whilst circling the sun, the earth also spins on its axis (turning point through the center) 365 times.

This makes the 365 days in a year.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/z6vfb9q>

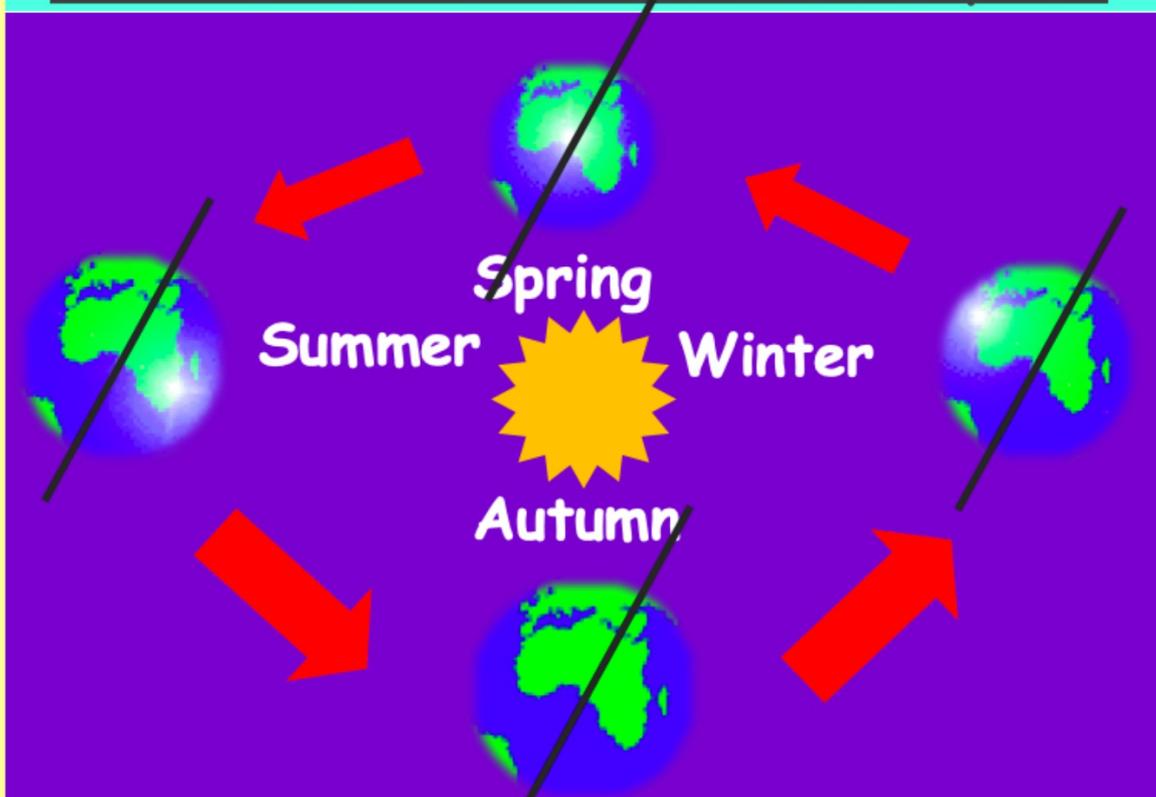


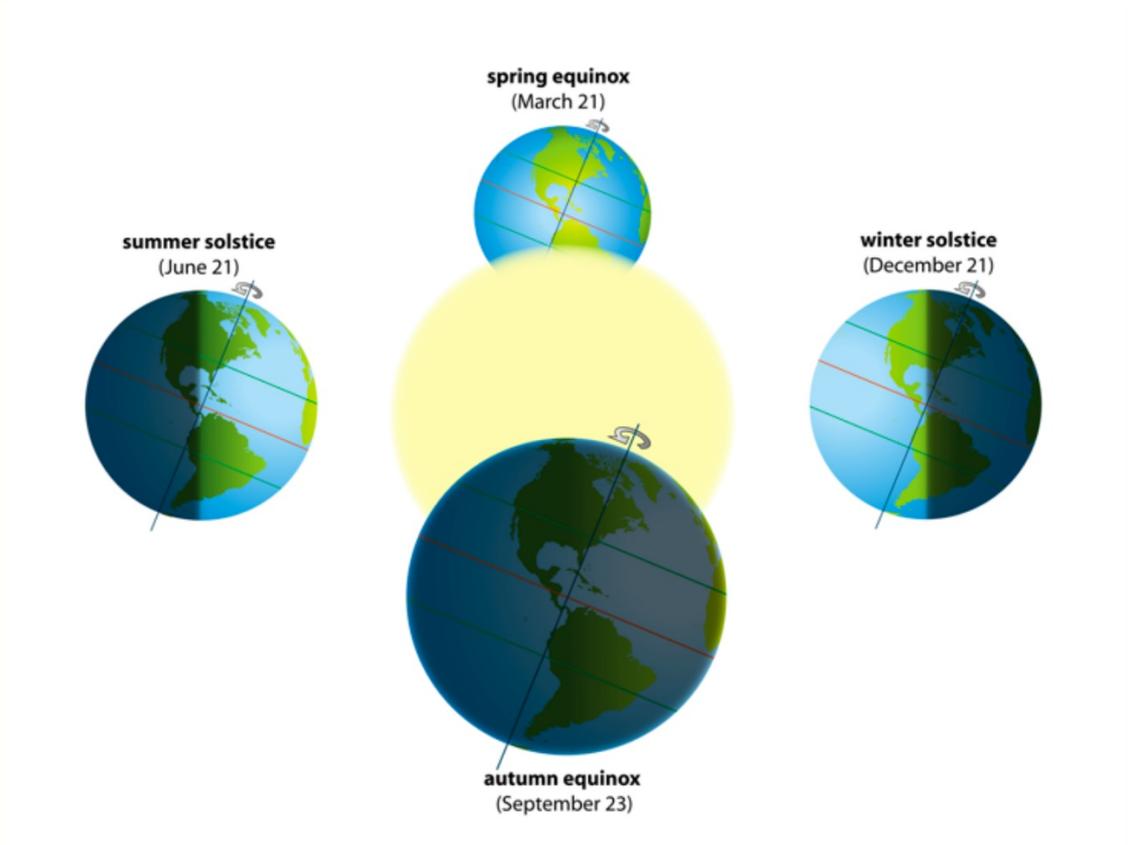
Watch the clip above to find more about what causes the seasons

How did the people who made the first calendars know what a year was?

- You can't look up at the sky and see when the earth has travelled once around the sun.
- They used the different times of the year to decide when a year had passed.
- We call these different times of the year- **seasons.**

The Seasons in the Northern Hemisphere





Complete the explanation about the seasons by filling in the gaps with words from the box.

The Seasons

We have seasons because the _____ orbits the _____ . It takes the Earth _____ days (or one year) to orbit the Sun. Because the Earth is tilted on its axis, at all times of the year one _____ is always tilted either _____ or away from the Sun. In the hemisphere that is tilted towards the Sun, it is _____ because the Sun's rays hit that hemisphere more strongly. In the hemisphere that is tilted away from the Sun it is Winter because the Sun's rays take longer to reach it and so they lose some of their strength. That's why it's _____ in Winter!

<i>Summer</i>	<i>Earth</i>	<i>cold</i>	<i>Sun</i>
<i>365</i>	<i>towards</i>	<i>side</i>	

Now use an atlas/globe/map to decide when would be the best time of year to take a beach or a ski holiday in the following countries.

**For countries in the Northern hemisphere, July is the middle of summer and January is the middle of winter.*

**For countries in the Southern hemisphere, January is the middle of summer and July is the middle of winter.*

The Seasons

Beach Holiday

Locate these countries on the globe/world map and decide which time of year would be the best to take a beach holiday there - July or January?

Greece

South Africa

Argentina

Portugal

Australia

Ski Holiday

Locate these countries on the globe/world map and decide which time of year would be the best to take a ski holiday there - July or January?

Japan

Switzerland

New Zealand

Chile

Sweden

ANSWERS

The Seasons

Beach Holiday

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July

South Africa

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Argentina

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Portugal

July

Australia

January

Ski Holiday

Locate these countries on the globe/world map and decide which time of year would be the best to take a ski holiday there - July or January?

Japan

January

Switzerland

January

New Zealand

July

Chile

July

Sweden

January