Name: _____ Date: _____

Summer Nights When the Sun Does Not Set

Circle group

Try going to bed when the sun still shines at midnight. In some places far north, summer is like that. It is called the midnight sun.

Earth is tilted as it goes around the sun. In summer, the top of Earth leans toward the sun. Places near the North Pole stay in the light as Earth spins. For weeks, the sun goes around the sky and does not set. It may sink low at night, then rise again.

Families find ways to cope. Some hang thick curtains to make bedrooms dark. Others use the bright evenings to play outside, fish or hike.

Winter is the other side. The top of Earth leans away from the sun. The sun may not rise for many days. The sky stays dim or dark.

The same thing happens near the South Pole. Its summer comes in our winter.

Questions

1. What is it called when the sun does not set in summer?

_____

_____

2. What is Earth doing as it goes around the sun?

_____

_____

3. How do some families make bedrooms dark?

_____

_____

4. What happens in winter when the top of Earth leans away from the sun?

_____

_____

5. Why does the sun stay up so long in far northern summers?

_____

_____

6. When it is summer near the South Pole, what season is it near the North Pole?

_____

_____

Words to know

tilted: leaning to one side instead of standing straight

cope: to find a way to deal with something hard

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Summer Nights When the Sun Does Not Set

Triangle group

Imagine trying to go to bed while the sun is still shining at midnight. In some places very far north, that is what summer is like. People call it the midnight sun.

Earth is tilted as it travels around the sun. In summer, the top of the planet leans toward the sun. Places close to the North Pole stay in the sunlight as Earth spins. For weeks, the sun circles in the sky without dropping below the horizon. It may sink low at night and then rise again.

Families in these places find ways to cope. Some hang thick curtains to make their bedrooms dark. Others use the long bright evenings to play outside, fish, or go for a hike.

Winter shows the other side of the story. When the top of Earth leans away from the sun, the sun may not rise for a long stretch of days. The sky stays dim or dark most of the time.

The same thing happens near the South Pole, but its summer comes during our winter.

Questions

1. What do people call summer nights when the sun does not set?

_____

_____

2. What is Earth doing as it travels around the sun?

_____

_____

3. How do some families make their bedrooms dark?

_____

_____

4. What happens in winter when the top of Earth leans away from the sun?

_____

_____

5. Why does the sun stay up so long in far northern summers?

_____

_____

6. When it is summer near the South Pole, what season is it near the North Pole?

_____

_____

Words to know

tilted: leaning to one side instead of standing straight
horizon: the line where the sky seems to meet the land
cope: to find a way to deal with something hard
planet: a large round world that travels around a star

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Summer Nights When the Sun Does Not Set

Square group

Imagine attempting to fall asleep while the sun is still blazing in the sky at midnight. In certain regions located very far to the north, that is exactly what summer is like. People refer to the phenomenon as the midnight sun.

Earth is tilted as it travels around the sun. During summer, the top of the planet leans toward the sun, and places close to the North Pole remain in sunlight as Earth rotates. For weeks on end, the sun circles through the sky without dropping below the horizon. It may sink low at night and then climb again.

Families in these regions find clever ways to cope. Some hang heavy curtains to darken their bedrooms, and others take advantage of the long, bright evenings to play outside, fish, or go hiking.

Winter reveals the opposite side of the story. When the top of Earth leans away from the sun, the sun may fail to rise for a long stretch of days, and the sky stays dim or dark for most of the time.

The same pattern occurs near the South Pole, although its summer arrives during our winter.

Questions

1. What do people call a summer when the sun does not set at night?

_____

_____

2. What is Earth doing as it travels around the sun?

_____

_____

3. How do some families darken their bedrooms?

_____

_____

4. What happens in winter when the top of Earth leans away from the sun?

_____

_____

5. Why does the sun remain in the sky so long during far northern summers?

_____

_____

6. When it is summer near the South Pole, what season is it near the North Pole?

_____

_____

Words to know

tilted: leaning to one side instead of standing straight
horizon: the line where the sky seems to meet the land
cope: to find a way to deal with something hard
planet: a large round world that travels around a star

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Summer Nights When the Sun Does Not Set

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Summer Nights When the Sun Does Not Set

Easier · 144 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.8

1. The midnight sun.
2. It is tilted.
3. They hang thick curtains.
4. The sun may not rise for many days.
5. The top of Earth leans toward the sun, so those places stay in light.
6. Winter.

Triangle: Summer Nights When the Sun Does Not Set

This passage · 174 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.8

1. The midnight sun.
2. It is tilted.
3. They hang thick curtains.
4. The sun may not rise for many days.
5. The top of Earth leans toward the sun, so those places stay in sunlight as Earth spins.
6. Winter.

Square: Summer Nights When the Sun Does Not Set

Harder · 189 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.8

1. The midnight sun.
2. It is tilted.
3. They hang heavy curtains.
4. The sun may fail to rise for a long stretch of days.
5. The top of Earth leans toward the sun, so those places stay in sunlight as Earth rotates.
6. Winter.