

Australian Citizenship Day

Australian Citizenship Day is on 17th September. It is a day to celebrate how the citizens of Australia all work together to make Australia a special place to live.

A citizen is someone who belongs to and supports the values of a country. People can be an Australian citizen by birth (being born in Australia) or by choosing to become an Australian citizen.

If someone chooses to become a citizen of Australia, they will attend a special ceremony called an Australian Citizenship Ceremony. Here, they will make an oath or promise to respect and obey Australian laws and values. They will also receive a certificate to celebrate them becoming an Australian citizen.

Australian citizens contribute to making Australia a safe, peaceful country by being responsible citizens.

Responsible Australian citizens:

- follow the rules and laws;
- are helpful;
- look after the environment;
- are friendly;
- are truthful and fair;
- co-operate.



To celebrate Australian Citizenship Day, many people become Australian citizens. People who are already an Australian citizen can participate in an Affirmation Ceremony. During an Affirmation Ceremony, citizens make a pledge or promise to continue to be a responsible citizen of Australia.

Questions

1. What day is Australian Citizenship Day celebrated on?

- 1st January 23rd July 17th september 12th December

2. Finish the sentence.

A citizen is someone who _____

3. What are the two ways you can be an Australian citizen?

4. True or False. If someone choses to become an Australian citizen they sing the Australian National Anthem?

- True False

5. Write one way someone can be a responsible citizen.

6. If someone you knew wanted to become an Australian citizen, how would you explain the responsibilities they would need to demonstrate?



Answers

What day is Australian Citizenship Day celebrated on?

- 1st January 23rd July 17th september 12th December

1. Finish the sentence.

A citizen is someone who belongs to and supports the values of a country.

2. What are the two ways you can be an Australian citizen?

People can be an Australian citizen by birth (being born in Australia) or by choosing to become an Australian citizen.

3. True or False. If someone choses to become an Australian citizen they sing the Australian National Anthem?

- True False

4. Write one way someone can be a responsible citizen.

Answers will vary but should include one of the following. A responsible citizen follows the rules and laws, is helpful, looks after the environment, is friendly, is truthful and fair and cooperates.

5. If someone you knew wanted to become an Australian citizen, how would you explain the responsibilities they would need to demonstrate?

Answers will vary.

Australian Citizenship Day

Australian Citizenship Day is on 17th September. It is a day to celebrate how the citizens of Australia all work together to make Australia a safe, democratic and inclusive country.

A citizen is someone who belongs to and supports the values of a country. Australian citizens respect their rights and responsibilities and this in turn leads to a peaceful society for all Australians. Australian citizens have the right to feel safe, speak freely and be treated fairly. They have the responsibility to obey Australian laws and vote in government elections.

Responsible Australian citizens:

- obey rules and the law;
- vote;
- show compassion;
- respect others, their beliefs and belongings;
- co-operate;
- are trustworthy and honest;
- are inclusive;
- try their best.



Australian Citizenship Day

People can be an Australian citizen by birth or by choice. Many people become Australian citizens in ceremonies around the country to celebrate Australian Citizenship Day.

If someone chooses to become a citizen of Australia, they will attend a special ceremony called an Australian Citizenship Ceremony. Here, they will make an oath (promise) to respect and obey Australian laws and values. This is called the Pledge of Commitment to Australia. They will also receive a certificate to celebrate becoming an Australian citizen.

To celebrate Australian Citizenship Day, many local councils and schools hold Affirmation Ceremonies. An affirmation is a promise made by Australian citizens to continue to live by the values and laws of Australia. This affirmation helps people to reflect on what it means to be an Australian citizen.



Questions

What day is Australian Citizenship Day celebrated on? Circle one answer.

- 1st January 23rd July 17th september 12th December

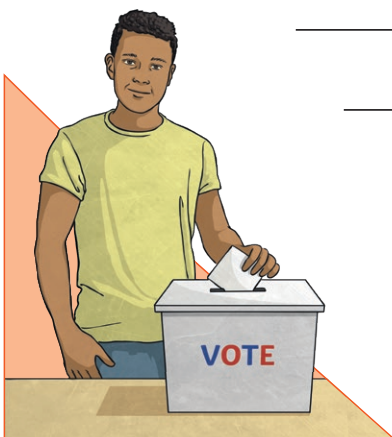
1. What is a citizen?

2. What is the difference between a right and a responsibility? Use a dictionary to help you.

3. Why do you think someone would choose to become an Australian citizen?

4. Give two examples of how a responsible citizen would behave.

5. Why might taking the affirmation in a large group “help to unify citizens and strengthen their pride in being an Australian Citizen”?



Answers

1. What day is Australian Citizenship Day celebrated on?

1st January

23rd July

17th september

12th December

2. What is a citizen?

A citizen is someone who belongs to and supports the values of a country.

3. What are the two ways you can be an Australian citizen?

People can be an Australian citizen by birth (being born in Australia) or by choosing to become an Australian citizen.

4. Why do you think someone would choose to become an Australian citizen?

Answers will vary, for example: Someone would choose to become an Australian citizen because they have moved from another country and they would like to become a part of Australia.

5. Write one way someone can be a responsible citizen.

Answers will vary but should include one of the following. A responsible citizen follows the rules and laws, is helpful, looks after the environment, is friendly, is truthful and fair and cooperates.

6. Why do you think it is important to be a responsible citizen?

Answers will vary, for example. It is important to be a responsible citizen because this is what makes Australia a safe and democratic country.

Australian Citizenship Day

Australian Citizenship Day is on 17th September. It is a day to celebrate how the citizens of Australia contribute to make Australia a safe, democratic and inclusive country.

A citizen is someone who belongs to and supports the values of a country. Australian citizens respect their rights and responsibilities and this in turn leads to a harmonious society for all Australians. Australian citizens have the right to feel safe, speak freely and be treated fairly and not be discriminated against. They have the responsibility to obey Australian laws, vote in government elections and defend Australia if called upon to do so.

Australia values inclusion, personal freedoms and democracy, which are all protected by Australian laws. By being responsible Australian citizens, we work together to build a strong nation where all Australians feel safe and valued.

Responsible Australian citizens:

- obey rules and the law;
- vote;
- show compassion;
- respect others, their beliefs and belongings;
- co-operate;
- are trustworthy and honest;
- are inclusive.



Australian Citizenship Day

People can be an Australian citizen by birth or by choice. Many people become Australian citizens in ceremonies around the country to celebrate Australian Citizenship Day. Over 4.5 million people have made the commitment to become an Australian citizen since 1949.

When a person chooses to become an Australian citizen, they must commit to respect and obey Australian laws and values. Citizens-to-be make this commitment during an Australian Citizenship Ceremony by reciting the Pledge of Commitment to Australia. They will also receive a certificate to celebrate becoming an Australian citizen.

To celebrate Australian Citizenship Day, many local councils, schools and communities hold Affirmation Ceremonies. An affirmation, or oath, is made by the citizens to promise to continue to live by the values and laws of Australia. When made as part of a large group, this affirmation helps to unify citizens and strengthen their pride in being an Australian citizen.



Questions

1. What day is Australian Citizenship Day celebrated on?

2. What is a citizen?

3. What is the difference between a right and a responsibility? Use a dictionary to help you.

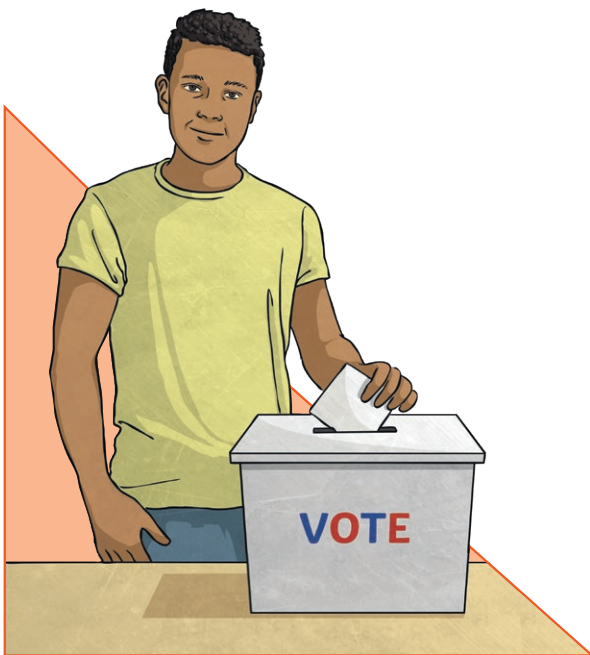
4. Why do you think someone would choose to become an Australian citizen?

5. Give two examples of how a responsible citizen would behave.

6. Why might taking the affirmation in a large group “help to unify citizens and strengthen their pride in being an Australian Citizen”?

7. Which value do you think is the most important responsibility for people to follow?

8. Why do you think it is important to celebrate Australian Citizenship Day?



Answers

1. What day is Australian Citizenship Day celebrated on?
Australian Citizenship Day is celebrated on 17th September.
2. What is a citizen?
A citizen is someone who belongs to and supports the values of a country.
3. What is the difference between a right and a responsibility? Use a dictionary to help you.
Answers will vary but will be similar to: A right is a freedom or privilege that a citizen is entitled to and a responsibility is a duty they must serve.
4. Why do you think someone would choose to become an Australian citizen?
Answers will vary. An example is: Many people have moved to Australia from around the world to start a new life. Becoming a citizen can help them celebrate their new life.
5. Give two examples of how a responsible citizen would behave.
Answers will vary, for example: A responsible citizen obeys the law and votes.
6. Why might taking the affirmation in a large group “help to unify citizens and strengthen their pride in being an Australian Citizen”?
Answers will vary. An example includes: By saying the affirmation in a large group people may feel part of their local community and to make people becoming an Australian citizen feel welcome.
7. Which value do you think is the most important responsibility for people to follow?
Answers will vary.
8. Why do you think it is important to celebrate Australian Citizenship Day?
Answers will vary. For example: It is important to celebrate Australian Citizenship Day because Australians can celebrate the values they share.

Daffodil Day

Missy's Story

At nine years old, Missy was an energetic little girl. She loved school, reading and cooking. However, it wasn't long before Missy began to feel tired all the time. There were bruises on her skin, as well as a strange rash. Something wasn't right, so her mum and dad took Missy to their GP.



“As soon as our doctor saw the rash, I realise now what she knew, what she was thinking,” says Missy's mum, Anj. “She sent us immediately for blood tests.”

It wasn't long before they heard the news – Missy had acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) – a common childhood cancer.

“It was really hard,” says Anj. “We live in rural Queensland and we had to get on a plane that day to get to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital so Missy could start treatment. We have two other daughters, so my husband had to stay behind at home with them.”

From the moment she began treatment, Missy was unwell.

“She didn't leave her hospital room for three months solid,” explained Anj. “We almost lost her twice due to complications. At one point her immunity was compromised and she was put in isolation.”

“I was really scared,” says Missy, “It was painful and I really wanted to be with my family and friends. I felt sick all the time and I couldn't walk for a few weeks. I needed help just to do basic things like go to the toilet.”

Thankfully Missy's treatment was successful. On the 13th of December she was able to ring the final chemotherapy bell in hospital, marking the end of her treatment.

Anj knows that it is research that saved Missy's life.



“It’s an absolute miracle that she’s on nothing now. She still has to have regular checks of her heart and liver and we have to be really careful, but she is much better.”

That’s why, when she grows up, Missy wants to be a researcher ‘to find a cure for cancer’.

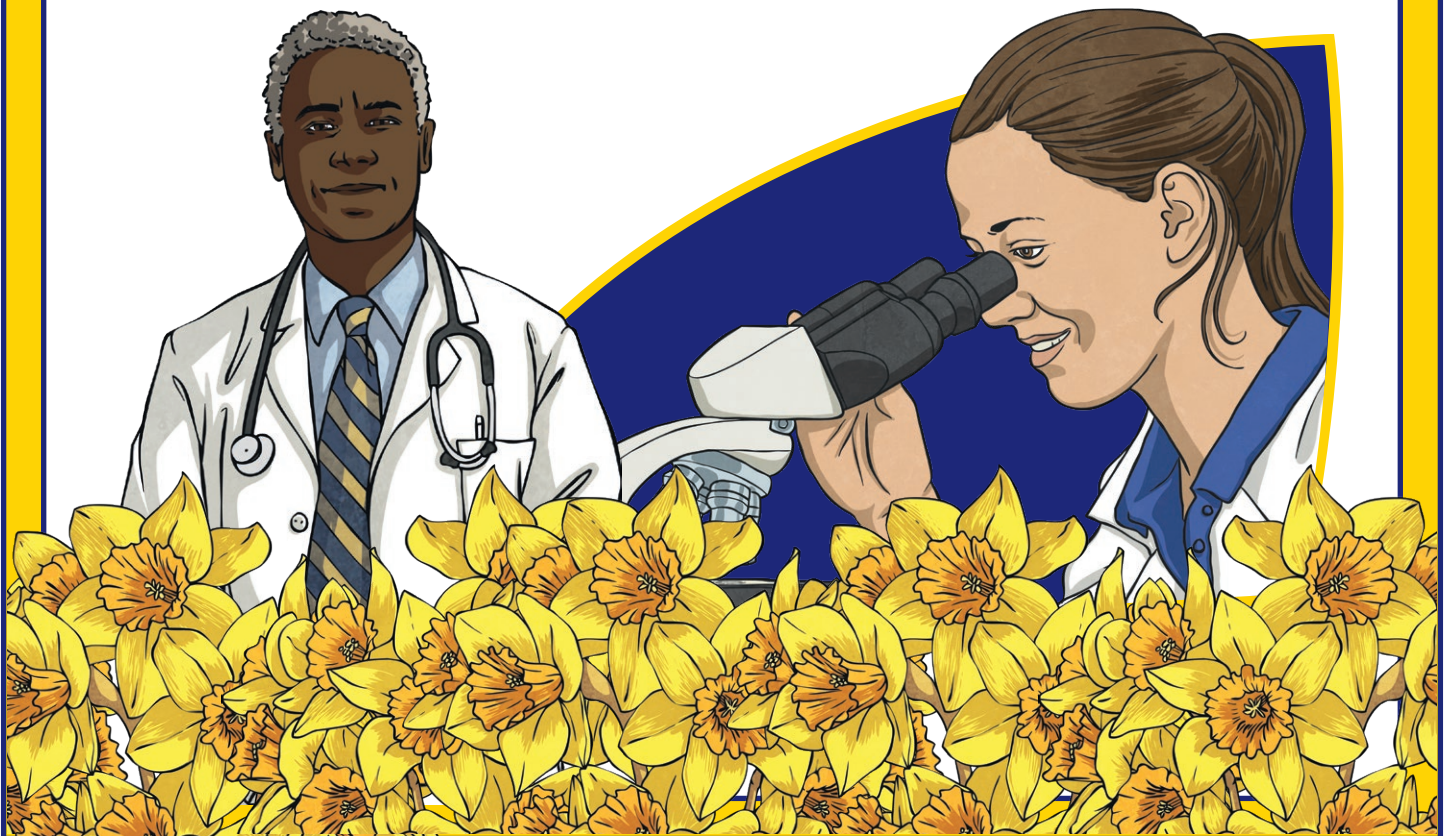
It’s also why Anj and Missy wanted to share their story with you today. They hope that doing so will inspire all Australians to support Cancer Council’s Daffodil Day Appeal.

“To all who donate, from the bottom of my heart, thank you,” says Anj. “Research is paramount if we want to give patients all the help that they need while they’ve got cancer.”

“Collectively, your donation is going to make a huge impact in helping everyone with cancer, not just kids, everyone.”

Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia is a cancer of the blood that starts in the bone marrow and spreads to the bloodstream.

Thanks to research, the five-year survival rate for children diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia has greatly improved. It’s now at 91%, up from 73% in the 1980s.



Questions

1. Number the events below to show the order that they happened.

- Missy's treatment was successful.
- Missy's parents took her to the doctor.
- Missy felt unwell, couldn't walk and missed her family and friends.
- Missy had bruises on her skin and a rash.

2. Missy lives in _____ .

- a. rural NSW b. rural Victoria c. rural South Australia d. rural Queensland

3. "It was really _____," says Anj. "We live in _____ and we had to get on a _____ that day to get to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital so Missy could start _____. We have two other _____, so my _____ had to stay behind at _____ with them."

4. Find and copy one word that means 'investigate', 'experiment' or 'test'.

5. Missy had Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia. What is it?

6. What is the current percentage of five-year survival rate for children diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia?

- a. 73% b. 85% c. 91% d. 99%

7. Missy's story is special. Why?

8. Why is Daffodil Day so important?

Answers

1. Number the events below to show the order that they happened.

- 4** Missy's treatment was successful.
- 2** Missy's parents took her to the doctor.
- 3** Missy felt unwell, couldn't walk and missed her family and friends.
- 1** Missy had bruises on her skin and a rash.

2. Missy lives in **rural Queensland** .

- a. rural NSW b. rural Victoria c. rural South Australia d. **rural Queensland**

3. It was really **hard**," says Anj. "We live in **rural Queensland** and we had to get on a **plane** that day to get to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital so Missy could start **treatment**. We have two other **daughters**, so my **husband** had to stay behind at **home** with them."

4. Find and copy one word that means 'investigate', 'experiment' or 'test'.

Research

5. Missy had Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia. What is it?

Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia is a cancer of the blood that starts in the bone marrow and spreads to the bloodstream.

6. What is the current percentage of five-year survival rate for children diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia?

- a. 73% b. 85% c. **91%** d. 99%

7. Missy's story is special. Why?

Missy's story is special because she survived cancer, she wants to be a researcher now to help others with cancer and she wanted to share her story with others to help raise money for Daffodil Day.

8. Why is Daffodil Day so important?

Daffodil Day is important because it raises funds for research. The research helps to improve the survival rate of cancer. The money helps not only those with cancer but their families too.

Fidget Spinners

Fidget spinners are toys that are made with a ball in the middle and three 'branches' coming from the centre. The branches spin around the middle.

They are made from a range of materials like stainless steel, brass, ceramics, titanium, copper and plastic. The different materials change the vibration and the length of time that the toys spin.



How to Spin a Fidget Spinner

- Hold the middle of the spinner between your index finger and thumb as if you are picking it up.
- Flick one of the outside branches with your middle finger and watch it spin.

How the Fidget Spinner Began

Fidget spinners were created by an American inventor, Catherine Hettinger, in the early 1990s. She was ill but still trying to look after her own eight-year-old daughter. Catherine began inventing toys for her daughter and the two of them went on to create the fidget spinner.

Uses of the Fidget Spinner

- It has been discovered that some children with special educational needs can use fidget spinners to help them to concentrate or calm down.
- They have been found to help people lower their stress levels by helping the user to 'zone out' and clear their mind.

Fidget Spinners in School

Some schools have banned fidget spinners as they say they are a distraction to other pupils and can negatively affect learning. They could also be a danger to others.

Questions

1. What materials might fidget spinners be made from? Tick two.

- brass
- wood
- stainless steel
- wool

2. What does using different materials change? Tick two.

- the size of the spinner
- the vibration of the spinner
- the length of time that the toy spins
- the type of person using the spinner

3. The paragraph titled 'How to Spin a Fidget Spinner is a type of what text?' 'Instructions' 'Poem' 'Recipe' 'Story'.

- Poem
- Recipe
- Instructions
- Story

4. Complete this sentence:

To make it spin, flick...

Questions

5. Which word most closely matches the meaning of 'created'? Tick one.

- found
- invented
- sewed
- fixed

6. Why did Catherine Hettinger make the fidget spinner?

7. What does the fidget spinner help some children with? Tick one.

- their maths
- their spellings
- their concentration
- their spinning

8. Why have some schools banned fidget spinners? Tick one.

- They are too much fun.
- They are too big.
- They are too expensive.
- They are too distracting.

Answers

1. What materials might fidget spinners be made from? Tick two.

brass

wood

stainless steel

wool

2. What does using different materials change? Tick two.

the size of the spinner

the vibration of the spinner

the length of time that the toy spins

the type of person using the spinner

3. The paragraph titled 'How to Spin a Fidget Spinner is a type of what text?' 'Instructions' 'Poem' 'Recipe' 'Story'.

Poem

Recipe

Instructions

Story

4. Complete this sentence:

To make it spin, flick...

it with your middle finger.

5. Which word most closely matches the meaning of 'created'? Tick one.

found

invented

sewed

fixed

Answers

6. Why did Catherine Hettinger make the fidget spinner?

Catherine Hettinger made the fidget spinner because she was ill and was looking after her daughter. She made the toy for her daughter.

7. What does the fidget spinner help some children with? Tick one.

their maths

their spellings

their concentration

their spinning

8. Why have some schools banned fidget spinners? Tick one.

They are too much fun.

They are too big.

They are too expensive.

They are too distracting.

Fidget Spinners

Fidget spinners are gadgets with a ball bearing in the middle and three 'branches' coming from the centre. The branches of the gadget spin around the middle.

They are made from a range of materials like stainless steel, brass, ceramics, titanium, copper and plastic. The use of different materials changes the vibration and length of time that the toy spins.



How to Spin a Fidget Spinner

- Hold the middle of the spinner between your index finger and thumb as if you are picking it up.
- Flick one of the outside branches with your middle finger and watch it spin.

How the Fidget Spinner Began

Fidget spinners were created by an American inventor, Catherine Hettinger, in the early 1990s. She was ill but still caring for her eight-year-old daughter and found she didn't have the energy to play with her as much as she would have liked. Catherine began inventing toys for her daughter and between the two of them, they created the first fidget spinner.

Disaster!

In 1997, the fidget spinner toy was patented, which means the person who created it has rights over it to protect the idea from being copied.

However, a patent has to be renewed every few years and in 2005 Hettinger didn't have enough money to renew the patent. She lost the rights over the design and now any company can freely make their own versions. The companies make a lot of money from them but have to give none of it to Hettinger. When she owned the patent, Hettinger would have been making most of the money from the product.

Uses of the Fidget Spinner

Some people believed that the fidget spinner would be useful for helping people to concentrate. It was found to be an especially useful gadget to help children who have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or other special educational needs that affect concentration spans. It is thought that the sensory

experience of the spinner vibrating and creating patterns helps some children with specific needs, to concentrate or to calm down.

The fidget spinners are also used to reduce stress by helping the user to 'zone out' and clear their mind. Because of this, many office workplaces are seeing a rise in workers using finger spinners to ease stress and nervous energy within adult workers.

Fidget Spinners in School

Some schools have banned fidget spinners as they say they are a distraction to other pupils and can negatively affect learning. They could also pose a potential safety hazard.

Some parents of children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) are concerned that banning the devices will cause their children to lose concentration and/or feel 'different' to their peers if they are allowed them but their friends are not.

Questions

1. Which materials are fidget spinners made from? Tick two.

- wood
- titanium
- aluminium
- plastic

2. Why are fidget spinners made from different materials?

3. Write a better sub-heading than "How to Spin a Fidget Spinner".

4. How do you make a spinner spin? Tick one.

- Flick it with your index finger
- Push it with your thumb
- Use your middle finger
- Put it on the ground

5. Why did Catherine Hettinger create the fidget spinner? Tick one.

- She was caring for her daughter.
- She was ill.
- She wanted to entertain her daughter.
- She wanted to make money.

Questions

6. Explain what a patent is in your own words?

7. Explain how the fidget spinner could help a person's concentration.

8. Put a T for true or F for false beside the following statements.

Then, correctly rewrite the false statements.

- Fidget spinners can help some people cope with stress.
- The vibrations of the spinner might cause nervous energy.
- Hettinger is making a lot of money from the spinners.
- The spinners have helped some children with ADHD feel calmer.
- Office workplaces are seeing a rise in spinners being used at work.
- The spinners can help children with special educational needs to make patterns.

9. Give two different reasons why some schools have banned fidget spinners.

Answers

1. Which materials are fidget spinners made from? Tick two.

- wood
- titanium**
- aluminium
- plastic**

2. Why are fidget spinners made from different materials?

Fidget spinners are made from different materials because they change the vibration and the length of time the spinners spin for.

3. Write a better sub-heading than “How to Spin a Fidget Spinner”.

Answers will vary. Possible suggestions are: Instructions to Use a Fidget Spinner, Instructions for How to Use a Fidget Spinner, Using a Finger Spinner or Making it Spin!

4. How do you make a spinner spin? Tick one.

- Flick it with your index finger
- Push it with your thumb
- Use your middle finger**
- Put it on the ground

5. Why did Catherine Hettinger create the fidget spinner? Tick one.

- She was caring for her daughter.
- She was ill.
- She wanted to entertain her daughter.**
- She wanted to make money.

6. Explain what a patent is in your own words?

A patent means someone has the rights over a design of an object or invention, so that no one else can use the same design and make money from it.

Answers

7. Explain how the fidget spinner could help a person's concentration.

The fidget spinner makes vibrations and patterns, which can help people's concentration or to calm them down if they are feeling stressed or nervous.

8. Put a T for true or F for false beside the following statements.

Then, correctly rewrite the false statements.

- T Fidget spinners can help some people cope with stress.
- F The vibrations of the spinner might cause nervous energy.
- F Hettinger is making a lot of money from the spinners.
- T The spinners have helped some children with ADHD feel calmer.
- T Office workplaces are seeing a rise in spinners being used at work.
- F The spinners can help children with special educational needs to make patterns.

The vibrations of the spinner will help people who have nervous energy.

Hettinger is not making any money from the spinners because she could not afford to renew the patent.

The spinners can help children with special educational needs to concentrate or calm down.

9. Give two different reasons why some schools have banned fidget spinners.

Accept any two:

The say they are a distraction in class, they can negatively affect learning and that they pose a safety hazard.

Fidget Spinners

Fidget spinners are gadgets that are made with a ball bearing in the centre and three 'branches' coming from the centre. The 'branches' of the mechanism spin around the middle.

They are made from a range of materials like stainless steel, brass, ceramics, titanium, copper and plastic. The variety of materials used in the bearings alters the vibration and duration of the spin.

How to Spin a Fidget Spinner

Simply hold the middle of the spinner between your index finger and thumb as if you are picking it up. Then, flick one of the outside branches with your middle finger and watch it spin.



Unlike many toys and gadgets, they don't need charging to work so they can be used anywhere at any time.

You can also lie the spinner on a table and hold its centre with your index finger. Use your other hand to flick one of the branches and then let go with your index finger. Depending on the type of spinner you have, it should steadily spin for quite a length of time.

Origins of the Fidget Spinner

Fidget spinners were created by an American inventor, Catherine Hettinger, in the early 1990s. She was ill but still caring for her eight-year-old daughter and found she didn't have the energy to play with her as much as she would have liked to. Catherine began inventing toys for her daughter and between the two of them, they created the first fidget spinner.

In 1997, the fidget spinner was patented, which meant Catherine Hettinger was granted ownership of the design and protected the idea from being copied by others.

However, the patent had to be renewed every few years and in 2005 Hettinger didn't have enough money to renew it. She lost the rights over the design and now many companies make their own versions. The companies are now making a lot of money from sales.

Uses of the Fidget Spinner

Some people believed the fidget spinner would be useful for aiding concentration and focus. It is considered a useful device to help some children who have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism or other special educational needs that affect concentration or their sensory experiences.

The device can also aid fine motor skills with some musicians being known to use the fidget spinner to exercise their fingers before a performance.

Fidget spinners have been used more recently to decrease stress, through the rotation of the branches, helping the user to 'zone out' and clear their mind. The theory of the fidget spinner being used for reducing stress means that many office workplaces are seeing a rise in workers using them to help ease stress and lower nervous energy.

Fidget Spinners in School

Some schools have banned fidget spinners as they say they are a distraction to other pupils and affect learning potential as well as being a potential safety hazard.

Some parents of children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) are concerned that banning the devices will cause their children to lose concentration and feel 'different' to their peers if they are allowed them but their friends are not.

Questions

1. Why are the bearings made from different materials?

2. Find and copy one word which means 'length of time'.

3. Write three things that you are told about fidget spinners in the introductory paragraphs.

4. What makes fidget spinners different to most hi-tech toys used today?

5. Write a more suitable sub-heading than 'Origins of the Fidget Spinner'.

6. Put these statements in order by numbering them 1 to 4.

- A patent was obtained by Hettinger, which lasted until 2005.
- A range of companies have the right to make money from fidget spinners.
- Hettinger invented the fidget spinner with her daughter.
- Hettinger did not have enough money to renew the patent.

Questions

7. Identify three types of people who may benefit from using a fidget spinner and explain how it might help them.

8. Tick 'True' or 'False' for the statements below. Then, rewrite the false statements correctly.

	True	False
Fidget spinners can help the fine motor skills in fingers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fidget spinners could cause people to develop problems with stress.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some people with ADHD might find fidget spinners can help to calm them down.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The rotating branches sometimes increase nervous energy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. Complete the sentences below.

Some schools do not allow fidget spinners because they might...

Parents of children with special educational needs are worried that ...

Questions

10. What is your opinion about fidget spinners? Explain your reasons.

Answers

1. Why are the bearings made from different materials?

The bearings are made from different materials because they change the vibration and the duration of the spin.

2. Find and copy one word which means 'length of time'.

duration

3. Write three things that you are told about fidget spinners in the introductory paragraphs.

Accept any three: they are gadgets /made from a ball bearing in the centre with three 'branches' coming from the centre /the mechanism spins around the middle / made from a range of materials like stainless steel, brass, ceramics, titanium, copper and plastic / the bearings alter the vibration and duration of the spin.

4. What makes fidget spinners different to most hi-tech toys used today?

The spinners are very different from most hi-tech toys used today as they don't require charging and can be used anywhere at any time.

5. Write a more suitable sub-heading than 'Origins of the Fidget Spinner'.

Answers will vary. Possible suggestions: The Creation /Invention of Fidget Spinners.

6. Put these statements in order by numbering them 1 to 4.

2 A patent was obtained by Hettinger, which lasted until 2005.

4 A range of companies have the right to make money from fidget spinners.

1 Hettinger invented the fidget spinner with her daughter.

3 Hettinger did not have enough money to renew the patent.

7. Identify three types of people who may benefit from using a fidget spinner and explain how it might help them.

Children who have ADHD or special educational needs; musicians; office workers or anyone who feels stressed at work; people who get 'wound up' and need calming down might benefit from using a fidget spinner because the vibration and the patterns created when they spin can help 'zone' people out and clear their minds.

Answers

8. Tick 'True' or 'False' for the statements below. Then, rewrite the false statements correctly.

	True	False
Fidget spinners can help the fine motor skills in fingers.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fidget spinners could cause people to develop problems with stress.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Some people with ADHD might find fidget spinners can help to calm them down.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The rotating branches sometimes increase nervous energy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Fidget spinners can help people with stress.

The rotating branches often help people reduce their nervous energy.

9. Complete the sentences below.

Some schools do not allow fidget spinners because they might...

cause distractions for other children /be a safety hazard.

Parents of children with special educational needs are worried that ...

if the fidget spinners are banned, their children will lose concentration, or that they might feel different if they are allowed them in school but their friends are not.

10. What is your opinion about fidget spinners? Explain your reasons.

Answers will vary.

Possible answers: I think fidget spinners should be allowed in school because they can help us learn and help us to concentrate/because they help some children with ADHD and special educational needs to feel calm at school.

I don't think they should be allowed in school because they can distract people who are trying to learn/could be dangerous to other pupils.

Keep Australia Beautiful

Keep Australia Beautiful Week is a week to build awareness about the importance of reducing litter and ensuring we look after the environment.

Litter is any rubbish such as paper, cans and plastics left on the ground. Litter can be small items like cigarette butts and big items like containers and wrappers from food.

Top ten pieces of litter that are thrown away:

1. Cigarette butts
2. Glass bottles
3. Plastic bottles
4. Aluminium cans
5. Plastic bags
6. Plastic chip and lolly bags
7. Plastic bottle tops
8. Metal bottle tops
9. Small pieces of paper
10. Foil lolly wrapper

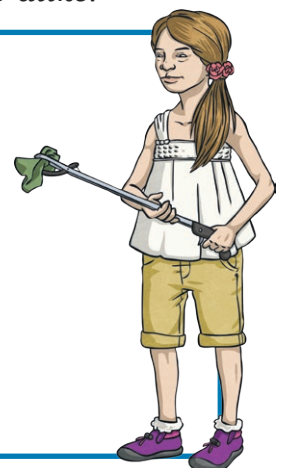
Litter can be dangerous to the environment. Litter on roads can lead to animals leaving their habitats to try to eat food on busy roads. Litter is a hazard to animals in the ocean. Sea animals can choke on litter as they may mistake it for food and try to eat it. Animals can also become trapped in plastic bags and other litter in their habitat. It is therefore extremely important that people reduce the amount of litter that is thrown away.

Keep Australia Beautiful Week aims to teach people about the simple ways everyone can look after the environment and to cut down the amount of rubbish they throw away. It is also a time to teach all Australians about making sure they place rubbish in the bin and not on the ground.

Keep Australia Beautiful Week is an important time to promote the importance of maintaining a clean, safe environment for animals and people alike.

What can you do to keep Australia beautiful?

- Make sure you put your rubbish in the bin;
- Say no to plastic bags;
- Have a rubbish-free lunch as often as possible;
- Reuse and recycle things you no longer need;
- Pick up rubbish if it is safe to do so.



Questions

1. What is Keep Australia Beautiful Week?

2. What types of items could be littered on the ground?

3. List three ways litter can be dangerous to the environment.

4. Which items in the 'top ten pieces of litter that are thrown away' can be recycled?

5. List two ways all Australians can keep Australia beautiful.

6. Why do you think people litter?

Answers

1. What is Keep Australia Beautiful Week?

Keep Australia Beautiful Week is a week to build community awareness about the importance of looking after our natural environments and reducing litter.

2. What types of item could be littered on the ground.

Answers will vary but may include: Litter on the ground could be bottles, cans, wrappers, paper and cigarette butts.

3. How can litter in the water be dangerous to the environment?

Litter can be dangerous to the environment because litter on roads can lead to animals leaving their habitats to dangerously try to eat food on busy roads, animals can choke on litter as they may think it is another sea creature and try to eat it and animals can also become trapped in plastic bags and other litter in their habitat.

4. Which items in the 'top ten pieces of litter that are thrown away' can be recycled?

The items which could be recycled are bottles, cans and pieces of paper.

5. List two ways all Australians can keep Australia beautiful.

Answers may vary but should include three of the following: Three ways all Australians can keep Australia beautiful are make sure you put your rubbish in the bin; say no to plastic bags; have a rubbish-free lunch as often as possible; reuse and recycle things you know longer need; and pick up rubbish if it is safe to do so.

6. Why do you think people litter?

Answers will vary.

Keep Australia Beautiful

Keep Australia Beautiful Week is a week to build awareness about the importance of reducing litter and ensuring we look after the environment by everyone encouraging each other to place their litter in the bin.

Litter is any waste, such as paper, cans and plastics, left on the ground. Litter varies in size from small items, such as lolly wrappers, to larger items, such as food packaging. This type of litter does not belong in any natural environment.

Here are the most common pieces of litter to be thrown away:

1. Cigarette butts
2. Glass bottles
3. Plastic bottles
4. Aluminium cans
5. Plastic bags
6. Plastic chip and lolly bags
7. Plastic bottle tops
8. Metal bottle tops
9. Small pieces of paper
10. Foil lolly wrapper

Litter can be extremely harmful to the environment. When litter is left on roads, animals often stray from their habitats to reach pieces of food. This can result in them being killed or severely injured. Most discarded waste that is found on beaches comes from urbanised areas. Litter is a hazard to organisms in the ocean as well. Aquatic animals can choke on litter as they may think it is another sea creature and try to eat it. They can also become entangled in plastic bags in their habitat. Litter can also pollute our seas as chemicals are released into the water, reducing its quality. As a result, it is really important to reduce the amount of litter that is thrown away.

One of the aims of Keep Australia Beautiful Week is to reduce the amount of rubbish people throw away. Another aim is to teach people about the simple ways they can look after the environment. Often, schools and community groups work together to clean up neighbourhoods, parks and beaches to improve communal areas.

Keep Australia Beautiful Week is an important time to promote the importance of maintaining a clean, safe environment for animals and people alike.



What can you do to keep Australia beautiful?

- Make sure you put your rubbish in the bin;
- Say no to plastic bags;
- Have a rubbish-free lunch as often as possible;
- Reuse and recycle things you no longer need;
- Pick up rubbish if it is safe to do so.



Questions

1. What is Keep Australia Beautiful Week?

2. What items in 'the most common pieces of litter to be thrown away' could be recycled?

3. How can litter in the water be hazardous to an animal like the sea turtle?

4. 'Litter can be extremely harmful to the environment'. Why has the author chosen to use the word 'extremely'? Can you think of a synonym and an antonym?

5. How do you imagine that litter from the urbanised areas ends up on our beaches and in the ocean?

6. List two ways all Australians can keep Australian beautiful.

7. Why do you think people litter?

Answers

1. What is Keep Australia Beautiful Week?

Keep Australia Beautiful Week is a week to build community awareness about the importance of looking after our natural environments and reducing litter.

2. Which items in 'the most common pieces of litter to be thrown away' could be recycled?

The items which could be recycled are bottles, cans and pieces of paper.

3. How can litter in the water be hazardous to an animal like the sea turtle?

Answers may vary, for example: Litter in the water can be hazardous to an animal like the sea turtle as the sea turtle may eat the plastic bag thinking it is food. Also, it could become tangled in the bag and be unable to swim for food and safety.

4. 'Litter can be extremely harmful to the environment.' Why has the author chosen to use the word 'extremely'? Can you think of a synonym and an antonym?

Answers will vary, for example: The author has chosen the word 'extremely' to emphasise how litter causes significant damage to the environment. A synonym of extremely is very and an antonym is insignificantly.

5. How do you imagine that litter from the urbanised areas ends up on our beaches and in the ocean?

Answers will vary, for example: Litter from urbanised areas ends up on our beaches and in the ocean by being blown into storm water drains and then it is deposited in the ocean.

6. List two ways all Australians can keep Australia beautiful.

Answers may vary but should include three of the following: Three ways all Australians can keep Australia beautiful are make sure you put your rubbish in the bin; say no to plastic bags; have a rubbish-free lunch as often as possible; reuse and recycle things you know longer need; don't put rubbish or leaves down the drain as they end up in the ocean; and pick up rubbish if it is safe to do so.

7. Why do you think people litter?

Answers will vary.

Keep Australia Beautiful

Keep Australia Beautiful Week is a week to build community awareness about the importance of looking after our natural environments and reducing litter. It is everyone's responsibility to ensure each other's litter is placed in the bin.

Litter is any waste, such as paper, cans and plastics, left on the ground. Litter comes in a variety of shapes and sizes ranging from lolly wrappers to containers used for food packaging. It is estimated that seven billion cigarette butts are discarded in Australia every year. This type of litter does not belong in any natural environments.

Here are the most commonly discarded items of litter:

1. Cigarette butts
2. Glass bottles
3. Plastic bottles
4. Aluminium cans
5. Plastic bags
6. Plastic chip and lolly bags
7. Plastic bottle tops
8. Metal bottle tops
9. Small pieces of paper
10. Foil lolly wrapper

Litter can be extremely harmful to the environment. When left on busy highways, discarded litter can lead to animals straying from their habitat in a dangerous attempt to retrieve remnants of food. Not only can it be hazardous for wildlife, it can also diminish the beauty of natural environments.

Aquatic animals are equally affected by discarded waste. 95% of litter on our beaches and in the ocean, comes from urbanised areas. Litter can have an adverse effect on the ocean as it can release chemicals into the water reducing its quality. This discarded waste also leads to sea creatures becoming entangled as they can mistake it for food. Animals can become trapped in plastic bags and other litter in their habitat. It is extremely important to reduce the amount of litter that is discarded.

One of the aims of Keep Australia Beautiful Week is to reduce the amount of rubbish people throw away. A further aim is to teach people about the simple ways they can look after the environment. Often, schools and community groups work together to clean up neighbourhoods, parks and beaches to



make these communal areas safe to use. Keep Australia Beautiful Week is an important time to raise awareness about the importance of a clean and safe environment for animals and people alike.

What can you do to keep Australia beautiful?

- Make sure you put your rubbish in the bin.
- Say no to plastic bags. Plastic bags often end up in the ocean and animals can be killed or seriously injured.
- Have a rubbish-free lunch as often as possible.
- Reuse and recycle things you no longer need.
- Don't put rubbish or leaves down the drain as they end up in the ocean.
- Pick up rubbish if it is safe to do so.



Questions

1. What is Keep Australia Beautiful Week?

2. What items in the 'most commonly discarded items of litter' could be recycled?

3. How can litter in the water be hazardous to an animal like a sea turtle?

4. 'Litter can be extremely harmful to the environment.' Why has the author chosen to use the word 'extremely'? Can you think of two synonyms and antonyms?

5. How do you imagine that litter from the urbanised areas ends up on our beaches and in our oceans?

6. List two ways people can keep Australian beautiful.

7. Why do you think people litter?

8. How do you help to reduce litter?

Answers

1. What is Keep Australia Beautiful Week?

Keep Australia Beautiful Week is a week to build community awareness about the importance of looking after our natural environments and reducing litter.

2. Which items in the 'most commonly discarded items of litter' could be recycled?

The items which could be recycled are bottles, cans and pieces of paper.

3. How can litter in the water be hazardous to an animal like the sea turtle?

Answers may vary, for example: Litter in the water can be hazardous to an animal like the sea turtle as the sea turtle may eat the plastic bag thinking it is food. Also, it could become tangled in the bag and be unable to swim for food and safety.

4. 'Litter can be extremely harmful to the environment.' Why has the author chosen to use the word 'extremely'? Can you think of two synonyms and antonyms?

Answers will vary, for example: The author has chosen the word 'extremely' to emphasise how litter causes significant damage to the environment. Two synonyms of extremely are very and significantly. Two antonyms are slightly and insignificantly.

5. How do you imagine that litter from the urbanised areas ends up on our beaches and in the ocean?

Answers will vary however will be similar to: Litter from urbanised areas ends up on our beaches and in the ocean by being blown into storm water drains and then it is deposited in the ocean.

6. List two ways all Australians can keep Australia beautiful.

Answers may vary but should include three of the following: make sure you put your rubbish in the bin; say no to plastic bags; have a rubbish-free lunch as often as possible; reuse and recycle things you know longer need; don't put rubbish or leaves down the drain as they end up in the ocean; and pick up rubbish if it is safe to do so.

7. Why do you think people litter?

Answers will vary.

8. How do you help to reduce litter?

Answers will vary.

Silkworm Life Cycle

Silkworms are an important insect as they create silk which is used for clothing, furniture and art. Like other insects, there are four stages in a silkworm's life cycle.

Silkworms were once native to Africa and Asia, however, they are no longer found in the wild. Silkworms are now only found in silk factories and in homes as pets. Silkworms prefer a warm climate and if it is too cold, the eggs can hibernate until it becomes warmer.

Silkworms start as tiny eggs laid in lines on mulberry leaves. Between three hundred and five hundred eggs can be laid by the female moth. The eggs are a yellowish colour but turn black before hatching. It takes about fourteen days until silkworms begin to hatch.



Silkworms are the larvae (caterpillars) that hatch from the eggs. They are a creamy colour with a head, thorax and abdomen. They have six real legs and six false legs at the end of their body. They eat constantly for twenty to thirty days and will only eat mulberry leaves. The silkworm may start life as a tiny caterpillar, however, they quickly grow longer. As the larvae grow so quickly, they will shed their skin four times over a month.



Silkworm Life Cycle

About a month after they have hatched, they start to spin a cocoon around themselves with one long, thin thread of silk. If unravelled, the thread of silk would measure between 300-900 metres. The silk cocoon can take them two days to make. The larva will then turn into a brown, hard pupa inside the cocoon.



Did You Know?
The pupa is edible and eaten in many countries around the world.



Did You Know?
It takes one hundred and fifty silkworm cocoons to make one silk tie.



After about seven days, the pupa turns into an adult moth. The moth makes a tiny hole in the cocoon and climbs out. The adult moth cannot fly because its body is too heavy for its thin wings. As the moth does not eat, it will only live for five to ten days. The male and female moth will mate and the female will lay her eggs before she dies.

Questions

1. Fill in the length of each stage of the silkworms' life cycle.

Egg	Larva	Pupa	Moth

2. What colour is a silkworm's body?

3. Name the three parts of a silkworm's body.

4. How many legs does a silkworm have when it is born?

5. What happens to the silkworm when it is inside the cocoon?

6. Why does the adult moth not live for very long?

7. Draw and label the life cycle of the silkworm.

8. Why do you think people keep silkworms as pets?

Answers

1. Fill in the length of each stage of the silkworms' life cycle.

Egg	Larva	Pupa	Moth
14 days	20 - 30 days	7 days	5 - 10 days

2. What colour is a silkworm's body?
A silkworm is a creamy colour.
3. Name the three parts of a silkworm's body.
The three parts of a silkworm's body are the head, the thorax and the abdomen.
4. How many legs does a silkworm have when it is born?
A silkworm has twelve legs in total when it is born (six real legs and six false legs).
5. What happens to the silkworm when it is inside the cocoon?
When a silkworm is inside the cocoon, it turns into a brown pupa.
6. Why does the adult moth not live for very long?
An adult moth does not live for very long as they do not eat.
7. Draw and label the life cycle of the silkworm.
Students draw the life cycle.
8. Why do you think people keep silkworms as pets?
Answers will vary.

Silkworm Life Cycle

Silkworms are an important insect as they create silk which is used for clothing, furniture and art. The scientific name for the silkworm is *Bombyx mori*. Like other insects, there are four stages in a silkworm's life cycle.

Silkworms are native to Africa and Asia, however, they are extinct in the wild and are only found in silk factories and in homes as pets. Silkworms prefer a warm climate and if it is too cold, the eggs can hibernate until it becomes warmer.

Silkworms start as tiny sticky eggs laid on mulberry leaves. Three hundred to five hundred eggs can be laid by the female moth. The eggs are a yellowish colour but turn black before hatching. It takes about fourteen days until silkworms begin to hatch.



Silkworms are the larvae (caterpillars) that hatch from the eggs. They are a creamy colour, and have the three recognisable parts of an insect: a head, thorax and abdomen. Interestingly, these creatures are born with six real legs and six false legs at the end of their body. For a period of around thirty days after hatching, the silkworm continuously eats mulberry leaves. During this time, the silkworm grows rapidly to become around 8cm long. As the larvae grows so quickly, they will shed their skin four times over a month.



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Silkworm Life Cycle

About a month after they have hatched, they start to spin a cocoon around themselves with one long, thin thread of silk. If unravelled, the thread of silk would measure between 300-900 metres. The silk cocoon will take them two days to make. Once the cocoon has been made, the larva will then turn into a brown, hard pupa.



Silk Facts

- The art of making silk began over 5000 years ago in China. It was kept secret for thousands of years.
- Around 2,500 silkworms are used to make half a kilo of silk.
- It takes around 150 silkworm cocoons to make one single tie.
- The cocoons are boiled in water to extract the silk.



After about seven days, the pupa becomes an adult moth. The moth makes a tiny hole in the cocoon and climbs out. The adult moth cannot fly because its body is too heavy for its thin wings. As the moth does not eat, it will only live for a period of five to ten days. Before they die, the male and female moth will mate to continue the silkworm life cycle.

Questions

1. Fill in the length of each stage of the silkworms' life cycle.

Egg	Larva	Pupa	Moth

2. Before they became extinct in the wild, where did the silkworm live?

3. A silkworm is an insect. How do you know?

4. Why does the adult moth not live for very long?

5. Why does the silkworm life cycle continue?

6. How many silkworms would be needed to make a kilo of silk?

7. Draw and label the life cycle of the silkworm.



8. Why do you think people keep silkworms as pets?

Answers

1. Fill in the length of each stage of the silkworms' life cycle.

Egg	Larva	Pupa	Moth
14 days	20 - 30 days	7 days	5 - 10 days

2. Before they became extinct in the wild, where did the silkworm live?
Before they became extinct in the wild, the silkworm were native to Africa and Asia.
3. A silkworm is an insect. How do you know?
A silkworm is an insect because it has three body parts: a head, thorax and abdomen.
4. Why does the adult moth not live for very long?
An adult moth does not live for very long as they do not eat.
5. Why does the silkworm life cycle continue?
The silkworm life cycle continues because adult moths mate before they die.
6. How many silkworms would be needed to make a kilo of silk?
5000 silkworms would be needed to make a kilo of silk.
7. Draw and label the life cycle of the silkworm.
Students draw the life cycle.
8. Why do you think people keep silkworms as pets?
Answers will vary.

Silkworm Life Cycle

Silkworms are an important insect as they create silk – an important commodity which is used for clothing, art, decorations and furniture coverings such as curtains and bedding. The scientific name for the silkworm is *Bombyx mori*. Like other insects, there are four stages in a silkworm's life cycle.

Silkworms are indigenous to Africa and Asia, however, they are extinct in the wild and are only found in silk factories and in homes as pets. Silkworms prefer a warm climate of between 18°C to 25°C and, if it is too cold, the eggs can hibernate until a preferable temperature is reached. Breeders can refrigerate eggs to allow them to choose when they want their silkworms to hatch.

Silkworms start as tiny, sticky eggs laid in lines on mulberry leaves. Three hundred and five hundred eggs can be laid by the female moth. The eggs are a yellowish colour but turn black before hatching. After fourteen days, the silkworms will begin to hatch. Silkworms are the cream-coloured larvae, which hatch from the eggs and that have the three distinctive features of an insect: a head, thorax and abdomen. Each silkworm has six real legs and six false legs, pseudopods, at the end of its body. For a period of twenty to thirty days after hatching, they continuously eat mulberry leaves – in fact, this is the only organism they eat!



Did You Know?

The mulberry tree is extremely important to the life of the silkworm. Silkworms will only eat the leaves from the mulberry tree. The female silkworm also lays her eggs on mulberry leaves. Silkworms do not drink water, however, they receive hydration from the moist leaves.



The silkworm may start life as a very tiny caterpillar, however, they experience a period of rapid growth, when they can reach 8cm in length. As the larvae grow so quickly, their skin moults four times over a month. On the final occasion that their skin moults, their body becomes tighter in preparation for the pupa stage.

Photo courtesy of susansouza (@flickr.com) - granted under creative commons licence.

Silkworm Life Cycle

About a month after they have hatched, the larvae will stop eating and begin to turn a clear, yellowish colour. They start to spin a cocoon around themselves with one long, thin thread of silk. If unravelled, the thread of silk would unravel to a total length ranging from 300m to 900m. The silk cocoon is made over a two-day period. After the cocoon has been constructed, the larva will then turn into a brown, hard-shelled pupa.



Silk Facts

- The practice of making silk began over 5000 years ago in China. It was kept secret for thousands of years.
- Around 2,500 silkworms are used to make half a kilo of silk.
- It takes around 150 silkworm cocoons to make one single tie.
- The cocoons are boiled in water to extract the silk.
- Silk is one of the strongest natural fibres in the world.



After a seven-day period, the pupa turns into an adult moth. The moth makes a tiny hole in the cocoon and climbs out. The adult moth cannot fly because its body is too heavy for its paper-like wings. As the moth does not eat, they will only survive for a maximum of ten days. Before they die, the male and female moth will mate so that the life cycle can continue.

Questions

1. Why is silk such an important commodity?

2. How long is the life of a silkworm?

3. What type of climate is optimal for silkworms to hatch?

4. A silkworm is an insect. How do you know?

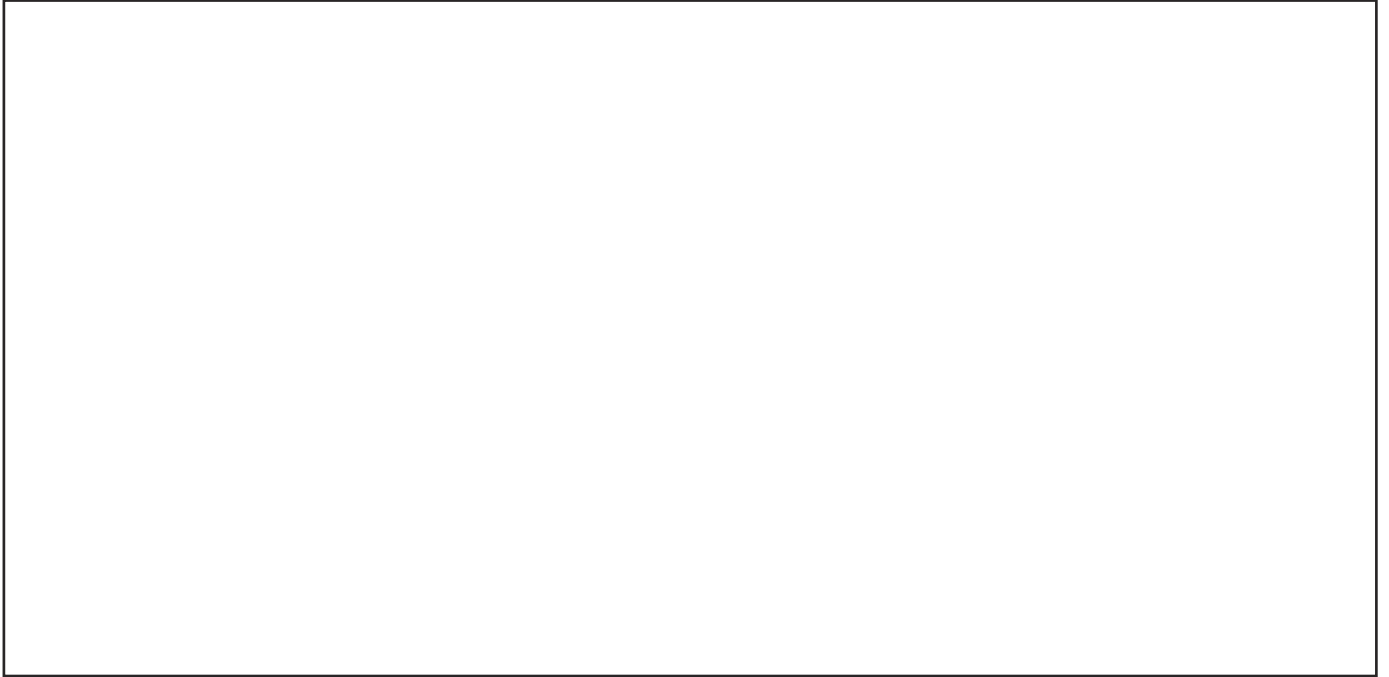
5. Why does the adult moth not live for very long?

6. Why are mulberry trees essential to the life of the silkworm?

7. Why does the silkworm life cycle continue?

8. How does a silkworm drink?

9. Draw and label the life cycle of the silkworm.



10. Why do you think people keep silkworms as pets?

Answers

1. Why is silk such an important commodity?
It is an important commodity because it is used for clothing, art, decorations and furniture coverings such as curtains and bedding.
2. How long is the life of a silkworm?
Answers will vary but would range from about 40-63 days.
3. What type of climate is optimal for silkworms to hatch?
A warm climate is optimal for silkworms to hatch.
4. A silkworm is an insect. How do you know?
A silkworm is an insect because it has three body parts: a head, thorax and abdomen.
5. Why does the adult moth not live for very long?
An adult moth does not live for very long as they do not eat.
6. Why are mulberry trees essential to the life of the silkworm?
Mulberry trees are essential to silkworms as they exclusively eat mulberry leaves and the adult moths lay their eggs on their leaves.
7. Why does the silkworm continue?
The silkworm life cycle continues because adult moths mate before they die.
8. How does a silkworm drink?
Silkworms do not drink water, however, they receive hydration from the moist leaves of the mulberry tree.
9. Draw and label the life cycle of the silkworm.
Students draw the life cycle.
10. Why do you think people keep silkworms as pets?
Answers will vary.

Mother's Day

How Did Mother's Day Begin?

In Britain in the 16th century, Christians would go back to their 'mother' church. This might have been the main church in their town, the church they had been baptised in, or the cathedral.

Often, children left home at ten years old, and got jobs in domestic service. Girls became maids in big houses and boys worked in the stables looking after the horses. They lived in the same place where they worked and were not allowed to go home very often.

Visiting Mother

On Mothering Sunday, children were allowed to go home and see their mother.

As they walked home, they would pick wild flowers along the paths and give these to their mothers.

Refreshment Sunday

Mother's Day in Australia is always on the second Sunday of May.

In Britain though, Mother's Day is at the end of Lent. This day was also called Refreshment Sunday. This was because during Lent, people did not eat food that was not good for you. On Refreshment Sunday, the rules about Lent were not as strict and people could eat a wider range of foods.

Did You Know...?

In Britain, simnel cake is a traditional Mother's Day cake. It is decorated with 11 balls of marzipan. These represent the 12 disciples, but one of them, Judas, handed Jesus over to the soldiers, so Judas is left off the simnel cake!

Mother's Day is a great chance to thank all the amazing women in our lives for all they do. It could be our grandma, nana, auntie, guardian, sister, carer or mum.



Questions

1. People from which religion would go back to their mother church in the 16th century?

2. How old would children be when starting domestic service?

3. What job would a girl do in domestic service, and what might a boy do?

4. What were they allowed to do on Mothering Sunday?

5. What did the children give their mothers?

6. What other name did this day have?

7. What sort of foods did people not eat during Lent?

8. There are eleven marzipan balls on a simnel cake. Who do these balls represent?

9. Who could you thank on Mother's Day?

Answers

1. People from which religion would go back to their mother church in the 16th century?
Christians would go back to their mother church in the 16th century.
2. How old would children be when starting domestic service?
Children going into domestic service would be ten years old.
3. What job would a girl do in domestic service, and what might a boy do?
A girl would be a maid and boys would look after the horses in the stables.
4. What were they allowed to do on Mothering Sunday?
On Mothering Sunday they were allowed to go home to see their mothers.
5. What did the children give their mothers?
The children gave their mothers wild flowers.
6. What other name did this day have?
Another name for this day was Refreshment Sunday.
7. What sort of foods did people not eat during Lent?
During Lent, people did not eat foods that were not good for them.
8. There are eleven marzipan balls on a simnel cake. Who do these balls represent?
The marzipan balls represent the disciples.
9. Who could you thank on Mother's Day?
Answers will vary.

Mother's Day

How Did Mother's Day Begin?

On this day, in 16th century Britain, Christians would return to their 'mother' church. This was the main church in the town, the church they had been baptised in or the cathedral.

Visiting Mother

At that time in Britain, it was common for children to leave home, usually as young as ten years old, and get a job in domestic service. This would mean they lived at the place where they worked and were not allowed home very often.

Mothering Sunday was a rare day off when all children were allowed to go home to visit their mothers.

As they walked home, they would pick wild flowers along the paths and give these to their mothers. This led to the tradition of giving mothers flowers on Mother's Day.

Fascinating Fact

For girls, working in domestic service meant being a servant or maid for a wealthy family.

Boys would work in the stables, tending the horses.

Refreshment Sunday and Lent

In the UK, Mother's Day always falls on the fourth Sunday of Lent. This day used to be known as Refreshment Sunday. This was because Lent was a time of fasting when people did not eat food that was considered bad for you. However, on Refreshment Sunday the rules about Lent were not as strict and people were allowed to eat more tempting foods.

Mother's Day in Australia, however, is always on the second Sunday of May.

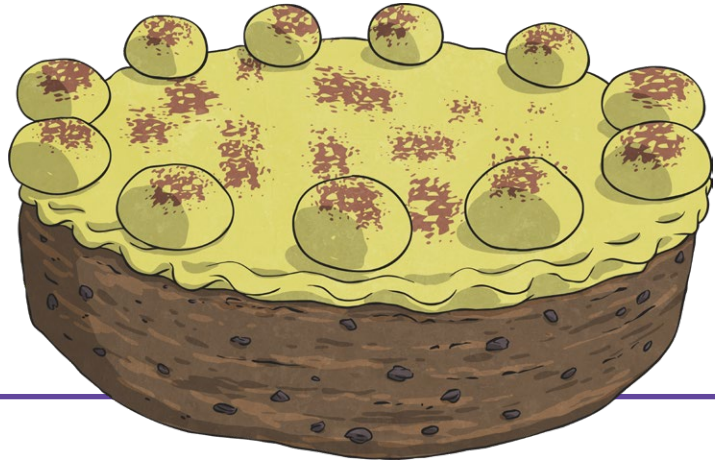


Traditional Food

Simnel cake is a fruit cake with two layers of almond paste and 11 balls of marzipan. The marzipan balls represent the twelve disciples. However, because Judas gave Jesus away to the Roman soldiers, he is not represented on the simnel cake.

The word simnel comes from the Latin word 'simila' which is a word for the fine wheat flour used to make the cake (semolina comes from the same Latin root).

Mother's Day is a good opportunity to thank all the amazing women in our lives, for all they do, whether it be our grandma, nana, auntie, guardian, sister, carer or mum.



Questions

1. Give two examples of the 'mother' church.

2. Describe what domestic service meant.

3. Where did the tradition of giving flowers to mothers on this day come from?

4. When did Refreshment Sunday occur?

5. Do you think people looked forward to Refreshment Sunday? Explain your thoughts.

6. Why are there eleven balls of marzipan on a simnel cake, rather than twelve?

7. Identify three other people who can share Mother's Day.

8. Why do you think these other people can share Mother's Day?

Answers

1. Give two examples of the 'mother' church.
Accept any two: Examples of the 'mother' church are the main church in the town, the church they had been baptised in, or the cathedral.
2. Describe what domestic service meant.
Domestic service was a job that children as young as ten years old, would go into to work. For girls, this meant becoming a maid or servant and boys would work in the stables. The children had to live where they worked.
3. Where did the tradition of giving flowers to mothers on this day come from?
The tradition for giving flowers to mothers on this day came from the time when children were allowed home to visit their mothers and they walked along the paths. They would pick wild flowers on their way and give them to their mothers when they got home.
4. When did Refreshment Sunday occur?
Refreshment Sunday occurred on the fourth Sunday of Lent.
5. Do you think people looked forward to Refreshment Sunday? Explain your thoughts.
On that day people were allowed to eat more tempting foods, so I think they did look forward to Refreshment Sunday.
6. Why are there eleven balls of marzipan on a simnel cake, rather than twelve?
There are eleven balls of marzipan on a simnel cake because they represent the disciples. Because Judas betrayed Jesus, he is left off the cake, so there are eleven rather than twelve.
7. Identify three other people who can share Mother's Day.
Three other people that can share Mother's Day are grandma, nana, auntie, guardian, sister or carer. (Accept any three).
8. Why do you think these other people can share Mother's Day?
Answers may vary. These people can share Mother's Day because they could be mothers too. These people can share Mother's Day because they look after people too.

Mother's Day

How Did Mother's Day Begin?

Traditionally on this day, in 16th century Britain, Christians would return to their 'mother' church. This was the main church in the town, the church they had been baptised in, or the cathedral.

Visiting Mother

Historically, children in Britain would leave home, often as young as ten years old, and work in domestic service. This would need them to live and work at their place of employment, often working 14 to 16 hours a day, and were not allowed home very often.

Mothering Sunday was one of the few days off that servants and maids had, and it was to allow them to go home to visit their mothers.

As the children walked home, they would pick wild flowers along the way, and give these to their mothers. This led to the tradition of giving mothers flowers on Mother's Day.

Fascinating Fact

Girls working in domestic service became a servant or maid for a wealthy family.

Boys would become stable hands.

Biblical Origins

In the UK, Mothering Sunday always falls on the fourth Sunday of Lent. This day was also known as Refreshment Sunday. This was because Lent was a time of fasting, when people refrained from eating certain foods, though on Refreshment Sunday the rules about Lent were relaxed a little, and people could eat more tempting foods.

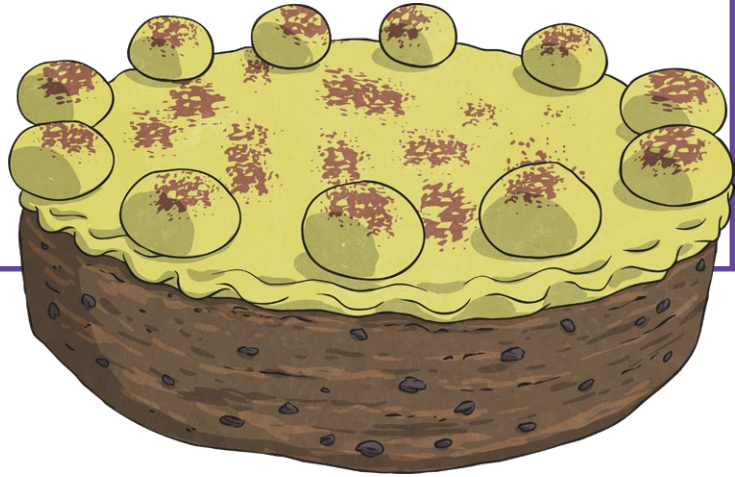
In the Bible, there is mention of food being shared during the time we now call Lent. This refers to the story of Jesus feeding a crowd of 5000 people, with five loaves and two fish belonging to a young boy.



Traditional Food

Simnel cake is a fruit cake with two layers of almond paste and 11 balls of marzipan, which represent the disciples, despite there having been 12 disciples in total. There is one less marzipan ball due to Judas the disciple having betrayed Jesus.

The word simnel comes from the Latin word 'simila' which refers to the fine wheat flour used to make the cake.



Nowadays, Mother's Day is a good opportunity to thank all the amazing women in our lives, for all they do, whether it be our grandma, nana, auntie, guardian, sister, carer or mum.

Mother's Day in Australia is always on the second Sunday of May – the same day as Canada and the USA. Most Arab countries hold Mother's Day on 21st March each year.

Questions

1. Explain what the 'mother' church was.

2. Describe how life would change for a child going into domestic service.

3. What is the third paragraph about?

4. Explain in your own words, what a 'tradition' is and give an example.

5. Describe the meaning of Refreshment Sunday.

6. Why are there eleven marzipan balls on a simnel cake?

7. Could Mother's Day be described as a celebration? Explain your thoughts.

8. Think of a better sub-heading than 'Biblical Origins'.

9. What other word could be used in the next to last paragraph instead of 'opportunity'?

Answers

1. Explain what the 'mother' church was.

The 'mother' church was the main church in the town, the church someone was baptised or the cathedral.

2. Describe how life would change for a child going into domestic service.

Domestic service was a job that children as young as ten years old, would go into to work. For girls, this meant becoming a maid or servant and boys would work in the stables. The children had to live where they worked.

3. What is the third paragraph about?

The paragraph in italics is explaining that children were not given much time off, and Mother's Day was one of the few days they were allowed to go home.

4. Explain in your own words, what a 'tradition' is and give an example.

Answers will vary.

5. Describe the meaning of Refreshment Sunday.

Refreshment Sunday was the fourth Sunday of Lent. People were allowed to eat foods that usually during Lent, they did not eat.

6. Why are there eleven marzipan balls on a simnel cake?

There are eleven balls of marzipan on the simnel cake to represent the disciples of Jesus. There are not twelve because Judas betrayed Jesus, so he is not included on the cake.

7. Could Mother's Day be described as a celebration? Explain your thoughts.

Answers will vary.

8. Think of a better sub-heading than 'Biblical Origins'.

Answers will vary.

9. What other word could be used in the next to last paragraph instead of 'opportunity'?

Another word which could have been used instead of 'opportunity' could be chance/time.

Spring in Australia

In Australia, the four seasons are summer, autumn, winter and spring. The seasons are identified by the group of calendar months which they belong to.

Season	Months	Weather
Summer	December, January and February	The weather is hot. Some parts of Australia are humid and other parts are dry.
Autumn	March, April and May	The weather becomes cooler.
Winter	June, July and August	The weather is cold; rain and storms are common. Some places in Australia get snow.
Spring	September, October and November	The weather becomes warmer, however, it is still very mixed. There can be rain, wind and cool days.



Animals in Spring

In spring, many animals and birds reproduce. There is plenty of food and the days are longer. This means that parents can find food easily. Animals may also start to shed their winter coat in preparation for the warmer weather.



Some animals that hibernate will start to wake up and become active once again. Hibernation helps some animal survive because they can protect themselves from predators. Also, there might be less food available so they do not have to eat while they are asleep.

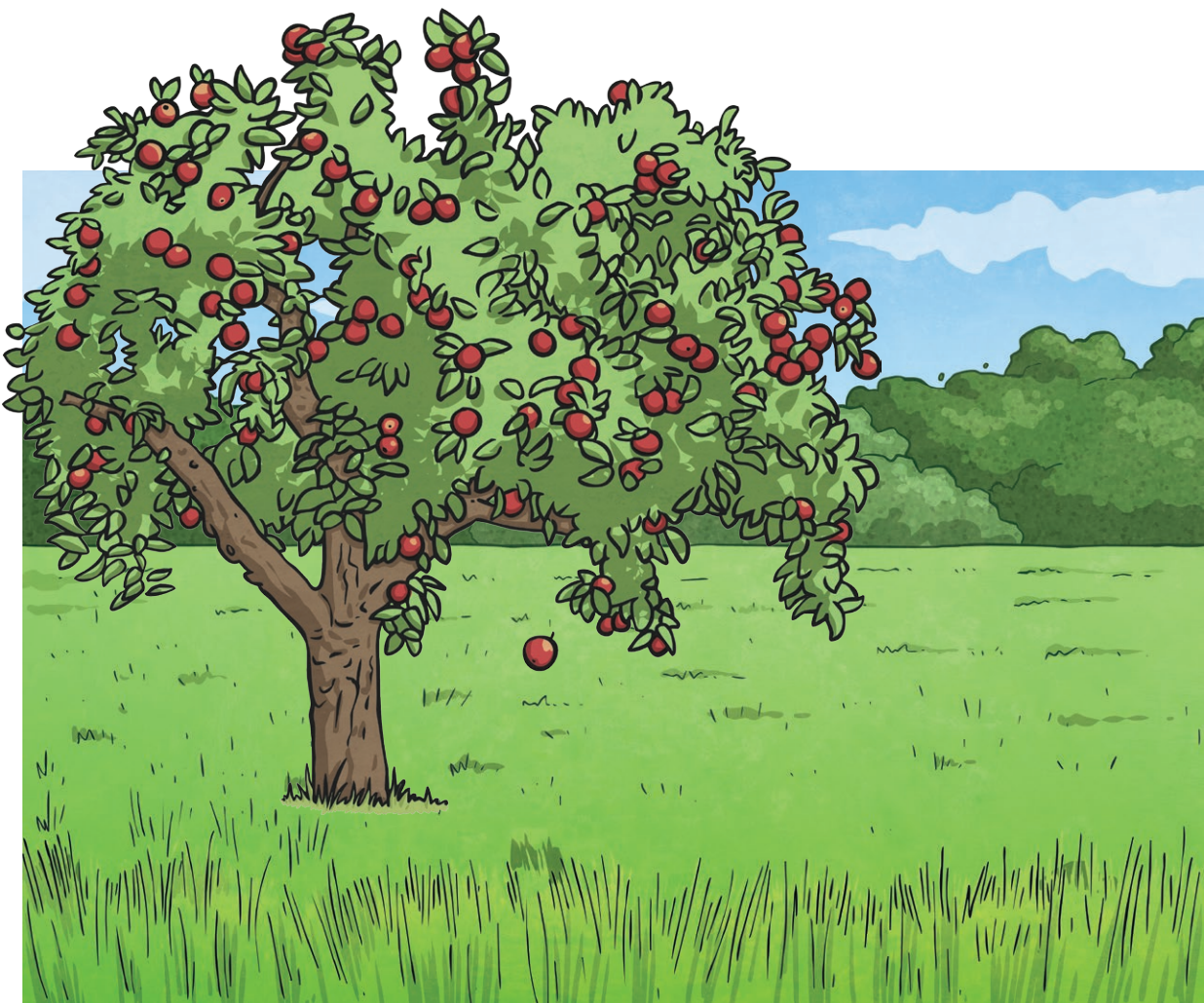
Plants in Spring

Plants need water and sunlight to grow. Spring provides the perfect environment for new growth. The rain provides the water and sun gives the plant energy to grow. Flowers may also start to bloom with the warmer weather. Fruits, such as apples, pears, avocados, lemons, mandarins and strawberries, start to grow.

Did You Know?

Deciduous trees lose their leaves during autumn. In spring, they will grow their leaves back.

Almost all native trees in Australia are evergreens because they keep their leaves all year round.



Questions

1. How long is spring?

2. Which season comes after spring?

3. Describe the weather in spring.

4. How does hibernation help some animals to survive?

5. What are two ways plants may change during spring?

6. What is the different between a deciduous and an evergreen tree?

7. How do you think spring affects people?

Answers

1. How long is spring?
Spring is three months long.
2. Which season comes after spring?
The season that comes after summer is spring.
3. Describe the weather in spring.
In spring, the weather can be windy, warm, cool or rainy.
4. How does hibernation help some animals survive?
Answers will vary, for example: Hibernation helps some animal survive because they can protect themselves from predators. Also, there might be less food available so they do not have to eat while they are asleep.
5. What do two ways plants change in spring?
In spring, plants may change by growing new leaves, growing fruit or having flowers bloom.
6. What is the different between a deciduous and an evergreen tree?
A deciduous tree loses its leaves for winter and grows them back in spring. Evergreen trees keep their leaves all year around.
7. How do you think spring affects people?
Answers will vary, for example: I think spring will affect people because there is more sunlight which makes people feel more positive.

Spring in Australia

Seasons in Australia

Most people in Australia refer to the European four seasons: summer, autumn, winter and spring. Each season lasts for three months. However, there are six different climate zones in Australia. This means that the seasons vary across the country. In the tropical areas of Australia, particularly those closest to the equator, many people refer to the wet and dry season, which each last six months. Indigenous communities have their own descriptions of seasons based on the weather and the impact each season has on the animals, plants and land. Some communities have five or six seasons, which are more precise and detailed compared to the four standard seasons.

The Weather in Spring

During spring, there is more daylight, which increases on a daily basis. In spring the weather can vary dramatically. Although there may be some warmer weather, it can also be a wet season as frost, wind, rain, sun and even snow can be experienced.

Animals in Spring

In Spring, many animals and birds reproduce. There is an abundance of food and the days are longer for the parents to find their food. Animals may also start to shed their winter coat in preparation for the warmer weather. Creatures that hibernate will start to wake up and become active. Hibernation is the way some animals survive during the colder months by lowering their body temperature, not moving or eating. Native Australian animals that hibernate are some types of possums, bats and echidnas.

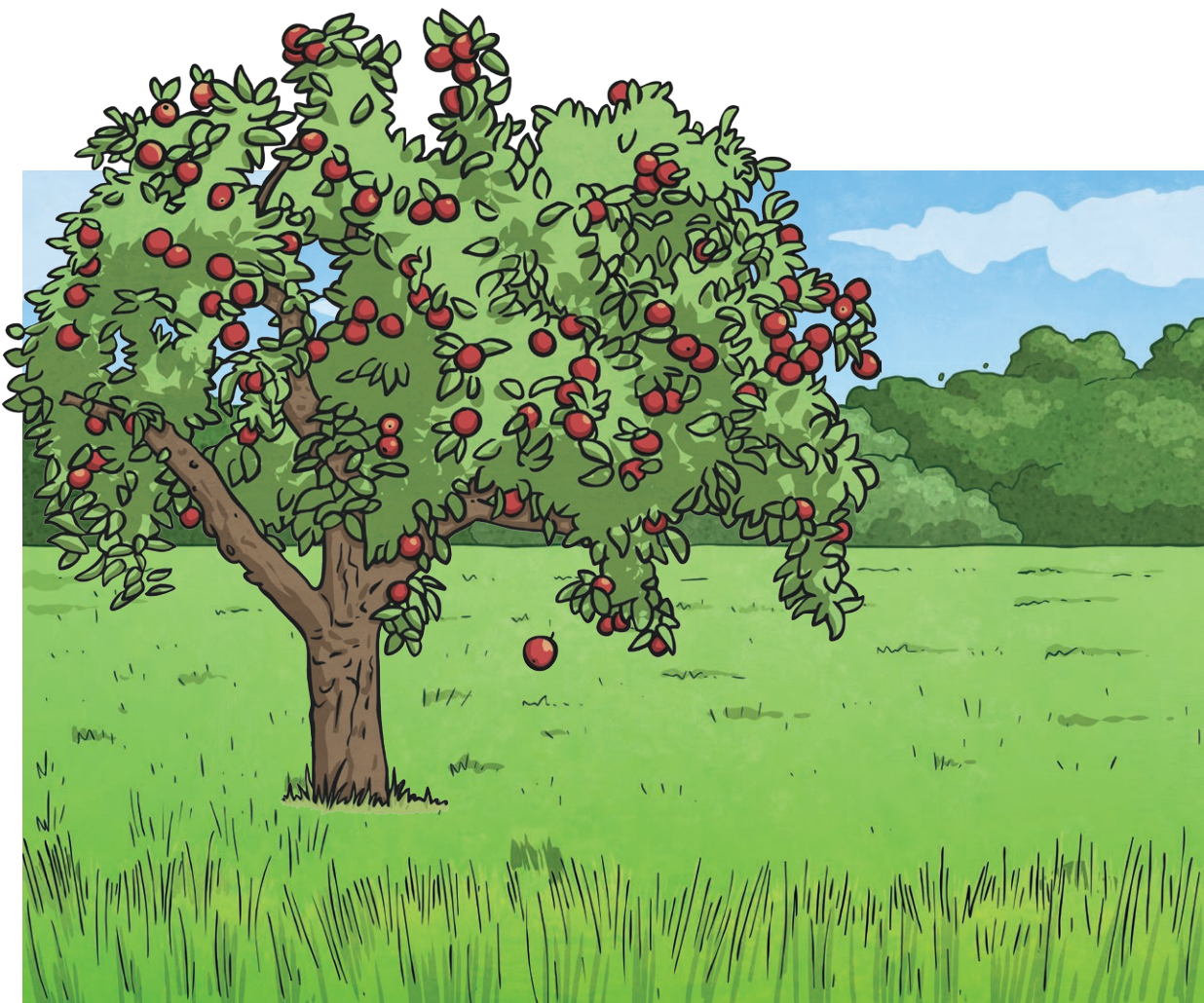
Plants in Spring

Plants need water and sunlight to grow. Spring provides the perfect environment for new growth. The rain provides the water and the increased sunshine gives plants the required energy to grow. Deciduous trees (trees that lose their leaves for winter) will grow their leaves back. Almost all native trees in Australia are evergreens – they keep their leaves throughout the year. Flowers may also start to bloom due to the warmer weather. Fruits, such as apples, pears, avocados, lemons, mandarins and strawberries, begin to grow.



Why Do the Seasons Happen?

Seasonal changes are caused by the tilt of the Earth's axis as it orbits the Sun. When the Earth orbits around the giant star, each place on the Earth gets a slightly different amount of sunlight. For six months of the year, Antarctica is tilted towards the Sun. During this time, spring occurs in the southern hemisphere. In Australia, spring happens during September, October and November. When Antarctica is tilted away from the Sun, it is springtime in the northern hemisphere.



Questions

1. How long is spring?

2. Thinking about where you live, which way of describing seasons suits your home best?
Why?

3. Describe the weather in spring.

4. Why is spring an important season for animals?

5. Why does spring provide a perfect environment for new growth?

6. What is the difference between a deciduous and an evergreen tree?

7. Why do we have seasons?

Answers

1. How long is spring?
Spring is three months long.
2. Thinking about where you live, which way of describing seasons suits your home best?
Answers will vary.
3. Describe the weather in spring.
In spring, the weather can be windy, warm, cool or rainy.
4. Why is spring an important season for animals?
Spring is an important season for animals as the warmer weather creates an abundance of food.
5. Why does spring provide a perfect environment for new growth?
Spring provides a perfect environment for new growth because the rain provides the water and the increased sunshine gives plants the required energy to grow.
6. What is the different between a deciduous and an evergreen tree?
A deciduous tree loses its leaves for winter and grows them back in spring. Evergreen trees keep their leaves throughout the year.
7. Why do we have seasons?
Answers will vary, for example: Seasonal changes are caused by the tilt of the Earth's axis as it orbits the Sun. When the Earth orbits around the giant star, each place on the Earth gets a slightly different amount of sunlight. For sixth months of the year, Antarctica is tilted towards the Sun. During this time spring occurs in the southern hemisphere. In Australia, spring happens during September, October and November.

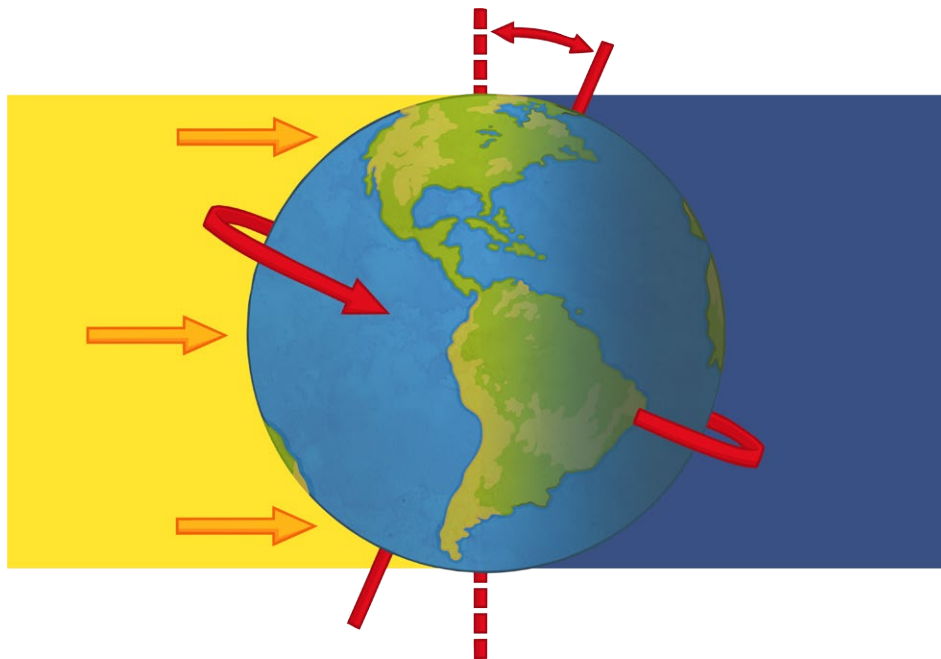
Spring in Australia

Seasons in Australia

Most people in Australia use the four European seasons: summer, autumn, winter and spring. Each season lasts for three months. However, the seasons can be different depending on where you live in Australia because there are six distinct climate zones. In the tropical areas, (those close to the equator) the year is divided into two seasons: the wet and the dry season. Throughout Australia, indigenous communities have their own seasons based on the weather and the impact each season has on their animals, plants and land. Some communities have five or six distinct seasons, which are more precise and detailed compared to the four European seasons.

The Earth and the seasons

Seasonal changes are caused by the tilt of the Earth's axis as it orbits the Sun. When the Earth orbits around the giant star, each place on the Earth gets a slightly different amount of sunlight. For six months of the year, Antarctica is tilted towards the Sun. During this time spring and summer occur in the southern hemisphere. During winter in Australia, Antarctica is tilted away from the Sun's ray. This means that, in the southern hemisphere, the temperatures are cooler and this is when autumn and winter occur. This explains why there are seasonal changes in Australia.



The Weather in Spring

During spring, the amount of daylight increases. Although temperatures increase, it can also be a wet season. The weather can be extremely changeable as frost, wind, rain, sun and even snow in some places in Australia can occur during this time of year.

Animals in Spring

In spring, many animals and birds reproduce. There is an abundance of food and the days are longer; this allows parents more opportunities to find food. Animals also experience a number of physical changes as they shed their winter coat in preparation for the warmer weather. Once spring arrives, hibernating animals will reawaken and become active. During hibernation, some animals survive during the colder months by lowering their body temperature, not moving or eating during the coldest season. Many native Australian animals hibernate, such as some types of possums, bats and echidnas.

Plants in Spring

Plants need water and sunlight to grow. Spring provides the perfect environment for new growth. The rain provides the water and the sun gives plants the required nutrients to grow. Deciduous trees (trees that lose their leaves during autumn and throughout winter) will grow their leaves back, however, almost all native trees in Australia are evergreens. Flowers may also start to bloom with the warmer weather. Fruits, such as apples, pears, avocados, lemons, mandarins and strawberries, begin to grow during this season.

Spring around the World

Spring occurs in different months around the world. When the southern hemisphere is tilted towards the Sun, the northern hemisphere is angled away from the Sun. Consequently, the days will be shorter and the nights are longer for six months of the year in the northern hemisphere. Therefore, when it is spring in the southern hemisphere, it is autumn in the northern hemisphere.

Questions

1. Fill in the missing information about the different ways of describing the seasons.

			Indigenous Seasons
Number of Seasons		2	
Length of Season			Varied

2. Thinking about where you live, which way of describing seasons suits your home best?
Why?

3. Draw a diagram of the position of the Earth and Sun during the Australian spring.
Remember to include the tilt of the Earth's axis.

4. Why is spring an important season for animals?

5. Why does spring provide a perfect environment for new growth?

6. What is the difference between a deciduous and an evergreen tree?

7. What does the word 'abundance' mean and why has it been used?

8. Explain why the southern and northern hemispheres have opposite seasons.

Answers

1. Fill in the missing information about the different ways of describing the seasons.

Answer 1

	European Seasons	Wet/Dry Seasons	Indigenous Seasons
Number of Seasons	4	2	5-6
Length of Season	3 months	6 months	Varied

2. Thinking about where you live, which way of describing seasons suits your home best?
Answers will vary.
3. Draw a diagram of the position of the Earth and sun during the Australian spring.
The diagram should have the southern hemisphere of the Earth tilting towards the sun.
4. Why is spring an important season for animals?
Spring is an important season for animals as the warmer weather creates an abundance of food.
5. Why does spring provide a perfect environment for new growth?
Spring provides the perfect environment for new growth as the rain provides the water and the sun gives plants the required nutrients to grow.
6. What is the different between a deciduous and an evergreen tree?
A deciduous and evergreen tree are different as a deciduous tree loses its leaves for winter and grows them back in spring. Evergreen trees keep their leaves all year around.
7. What does the word abundance mean and why has it been used?
Answers will vary, for example: Abundance means there is a lot of a certain item. It has been chosen to show that there is a lot of food for animals during spring.
8. Explain why the southern and northern hemispheres have opposite seasons.
The northern and southern hemisphere experience opposite seasons as when the southern hemisphere is tilting towards the sun for spring, the northern hemisphere is angled away from the sun so experiences the opposite of spring: autumn.

Summer in Australia

In Australia, the four seasons are summer, autumn, winter and spring. The seasons are identified by the group of calendar months that they belong to.

Season	Months	Weather
Summer	December, January and February.	The weather is hot. Some parts of Australia are humid and other parts are dry.
Autumn	March, April and May.	The weather becomes cooler.
Winter	June, July and August.	The weather is cold. Rain and storms are common. Some places in Australia get snow.
Spring	September, October and November.	The weather becomes warmer however it is still very mixed. There can be rain, wind and cool days.

Animals in Summer

Native Australian animals have adapted to survive the Australian heat. Koalas stay still in the shade of a tree and wait for the heat to pass. Sugar gliders are nocturnal so they are active during the cooler nights. During the day, they curl up in the shade of the tree. In summer, kangaroos do not sweat so, instead, they lick themselves to keep cool. Snakes are most active in summer because they are cold-blooded and they need the heat to warm their bodies.



Plants in Summer

Australian native plants have adapted to the summer weather in Australia. Plants with smaller leaves or spikes lose less water through evaporation. If a plant has spikes, it is less likely to be eaten by animals. Some plants will stop growing during summer. They may even look dead; however, they are just in a resting state so they can save energy in the heat. Finally, soft fruits, such as peaches, tomatoes and strawberries, ripen. This means that they are ready to eat in summer. This explains why these fruits are eaten during the summer.



Questions

1. How long is summer?

2. Which season comes after summer?

3. Describe the weather in summer.

4. Name one way an animal might keep cool in summer.

5. Why do you think a plant may stop growing in the summer?

6. Why are snakes most active during the summer?

7. Which fruits ripen during summer?

8. From what you have read in the text, which plant or animal adaptation is the most effective? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. How long is summer?
Summer is three months long.
2. Which season comes after summer?
Autumn comes after summer.
3. Describe the weather in summer.
In summer, the weather it is hot and dry. Some parts of Australia can be humid.
4. Name one way an animal might keep cool in summer.
Answers will vary but will include one of the following: Animals will keep cool in summer by staying in the shade, hardly moving, being active at night and licking themselves.
5. Why do you think a plant may stop growing in the summer?
Answers will vary but may include: A plant might stop growing in summer to save energy and not use a lot of water.
6. Why are snakes most active during the summer?
Snakes are most active in summer because they are cold-blooded and they need the heat to warm their bodies.
7. Which fruits ripen during summer?
During summer, soft fruits, such peaches, tomatoes and strawberries, ripen, which means that they ready to eat.
8. From what you have read in the text, which plant or animal adaptation is the most impressive? Explain your answer.
Answers will vary.

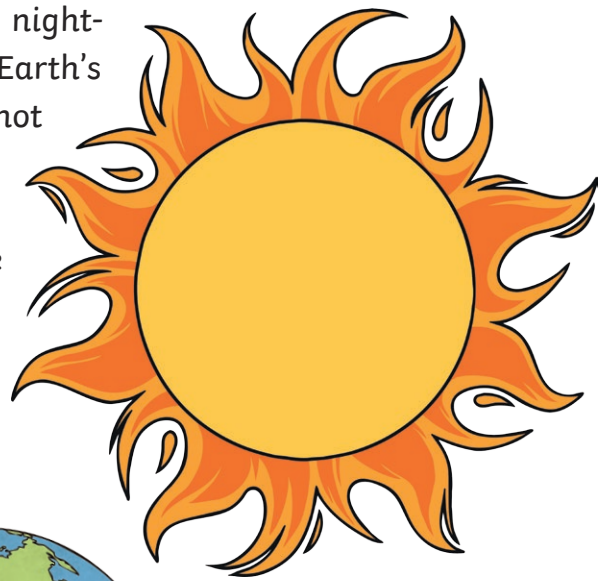
Summer in Australia

Seasons in Australia

Most people in Australia refer to the European four seasons: summer, autumn, winter and spring. Each season lasts for three months. In the tropical areas of Australia, many people refer to the wet and dry season, each lasting about six months. Indigenous communities have their own descriptions of seasons based on the weather and the impact this has on the animals, plants and land. These descriptions vary for different communities based on location. Some communities have five or six seasons. Overall, the number of seasons an area has depends on where a person lives in Australia.

The Weather in Summer

During summer, there is more daylight than night-time hours. This is because of the tilt of the Earth's axis. In summer, the weather is generally hot and dry. However, it can be humid closer to the equator. The sun is extremely strong in the southern hemisphere compared to the northern hemisphere during summer so the risk of getting sunburnt is much higher. Australia is also prone to natural disasters like bushfires and cyclones during summer. As a result, the weather can be hostile during the summertime.



Why Do We Have Seasons?

Seasons occur because when the Earth orbits the Sun, it is tilted 23.5° on its axis. For six months of the year, the South Pole is tilted towards the Sun. As a result, the days are longer and the weather is warmer in the southern hemisphere. During the Australian summer, the southern hemisphere is tilted towards the Sun. When the North Pole is tilted towards the Sun, the days are shorter in the southern hemisphere. The temperature will be cooler as well. This explains the changes between the seasons.



Animals in Summer

Native Australian animals have adapted to survive the warm summertime temperatures in Australia. Koalas stay still in the shade of a tree and wait for the heat to pass. Sugar gliders are nocturnal so they are active during the cooler nights and avoid being active during the day by curling up in the shade of the tree. The kangaroo, another native Australian animal, does not sweat and instead licks itself to maintain a regular body temperature. Finally, snakes living in Australia are active in summer because they are cold-blooded animals. Therefore, they need to be outside in order to warm their bodies.



Plants in Summer

Australian native plants have adapted to the weather conditions during summer. Plants with smaller leaves or spikes lose less water through evaporation. Some plants have adapted by growing spikes, which prevents them being eaten by primary consumers. Some plants cease growing during summer and, in some instances, appear to be dead; however, they are just in dormant state so that they save energy in the heat. Soft fruits, such as peaches, tomatoes and strawberries, are ripe and ready to eat in summer.



Questions

1. How long is summer?

2. Thinking about where you live, which way of describing seasons suits your home best? Why?

3. Describe the weather in summer.

4. Explain why the seasons occur.

5. What are two ways an animal might keep cool in summer?

6. Why do you think a plant may stop growing in the summer?

7. Animals and plants change to stay cool in the summer. How do people stay cool in summer?

8. Why do some plants grow spikes?

9. Why are soft fruits eaten widely during the summer?

10. Using information given in the text, which plant or animal adaptation do you think is the most effective?

Answers

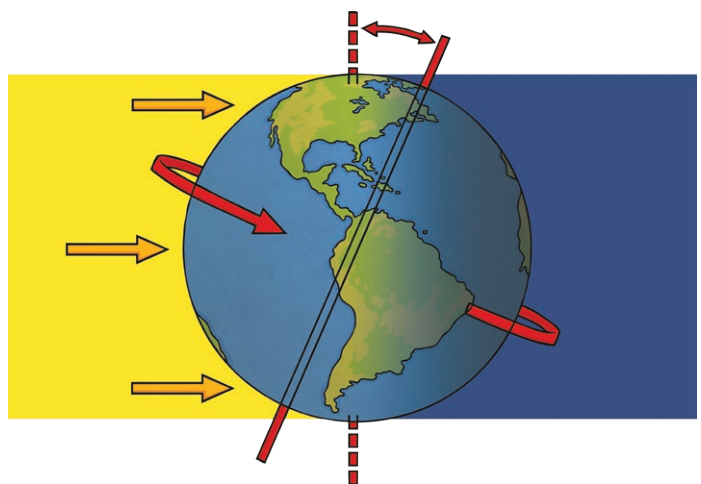
1. How long is summer?
Summer is three months long.
2. Thinking about where you live, which way of describing seasons suits your home best?
Answers will vary.
3. Describe the weather in summer.
In summer, the weather is hot and dry. Some parts of Australia can be humid.
4. Explain why the seasons occur.
Seasons occur because when the Earth orbits the Sun, it is tilted 23.5° on its axis.
5. What are two ways an animal might keep cool in summer?
Answers will vary but will include two of the following: Animals will keep cool in summer by staying in the shade, hardly moving, being active at night and licking themselves.
6. Why do you think a plant may stop growing in the summer?
Answers will vary but may include: A plant might stop growing in summer to save energy and not use a lot of water.
7. Animals and plants change to stay cool in the summer. How do people stay cool in summer?
Answers will vary.
8. Why do some plants grow spikes?
Some plants have adapted by growing spikes, which prevents them being eaten by primary consumers.
9. Why are soft fruits eaten widely during the summer?
Soft fruits are eaten widely during the summer because they ripen, which means they are ready to eat.
10. Using information given in the text, which plant or animal adaptation do you think is the most effective?
Answers will vary.

Summer in Australia

When considering the seasons, most Australians divide the year into four periods: summer, autumn, winter and spring. Each season lasts for three months. However, Australia is a diverse country with six different climate zones. In tropical regions, the year is divided into two seasons: the wet and dry season, which each last six months. Indigenous communities have their own distinct seasons, which are based on the weather and the impact it has on the animals, plants and land. Each community has their own seasons. Some communities have five or six seasons.

Seasonal changes happen due to the 23.5° tilt of the Earth's axis. For a six-month period, the South Pole is tilted towards the Sun. Consequently, the days are longer and the weather is warmer in the southern hemisphere. During the Australian summer, the southern hemisphere is tilted towards the Sun. When the North Pole is tilted towards the Sun, the days are shorter in the southern hemisphere. The temperature will be cooler as well. This is when winter happens.

Summer happens in different months around the world. Once again, this is due to the tilt of the Earth's axis. When the southern hemisphere is tilted towards the Sun, the northern hemisphere is angled away from the sun, so it experiences the opposite of summer: winter. Therefore, if you live in the northern hemisphere, summer is in June, July and August, whereas in Australia, winter occurs during these months.



During summer, there is more daylight and each day is becoming longer. This is because of the tilt of the Earth. In summer, the weather is generally hot and dry. The warmest temperatures occur during summer and the highest temperature ever recorded was on 2nd January 1960 when 50.7°C was reached at Oodnadatta Airport in South Australia. By contrast, in tropical areas, humid weather is common during summer. The sun is much stronger in the southern hemisphere compared to the northern hemisphere during summer. Consequently, the risk of getting sunburnt is much greater. Australia is also prone to natural disasters during summer, such as bushfires and cyclones, which occur in tropical regions.

Native Australian animals have developed many adaptations to survive extremely warm temperatures. Koalas stay still in the shade of a tree and wait for the heat to pass. Sugar gliders are nocturnal so they are active during the cooler nights. During the day, they curl up in the shade of trees. Kangaroos do not sweat; instead, they lick themselves to keep cool. Reptiles, such as snakes, are particularly active throughout Australia in summer due to them being cold-blooded animals. As a result, they need to lie in the sun in order to warm their body so they can be active. Pets need extra care in summer: pet owners should provide their animals with extra water and shade to keep cool.



Australian native plants have also adapted so they can survive the extreme heat of summer. Plants with smaller leaves or spikes lose less water through evaporation. Spikes act as a deterrent to potential consumers. Some plants will stop growing during summer. They may give the appearance of being dead; however, they are just in a dormant state to conserve energy during extreme temperatures. Soft fruits, such as peaches, tomatoes and strawberries, are ripe and ready to eat in summer.



Questions

1. Fill in the missing information about the different ways of describing the seasons.

			Indigenous Seasons
Number of Seasons		2	
Legnth of Seasons			Varied

2. Why do the seasons vary across Australia?

3. Why do seasonal changes happen?

4. What are two ways an animal might keep cool in summer?

5. Why do you think a plant may stop growing in the summer?

6. Explain why the southern and northern hemispheres have opposite seasons.

7. Animals and plants change to stay cool in the summer. How do people stay cool in summer?

8. Why would a kangaroo lick itself instead of sweating during summer?

9. Snakes are cold-blooded animals. How does this affect their behaviour during summer?

10. Why are strawberries a common ingredient in summer desserts? Use evidence from the text to explain your answer.

Answers

1. Fill in the missing information about the different ways of describing the seasons.

	European Seasons	Wet/Dry Seasons	Indigenous Seasons
Number of Seasons	4	2	5-6
Legnth of Seasons	3 months	6 months	Varied

2. Why do the seasons vary across Australia?

The seasons vary across Australia because there are six climate zones in the country.

3. Why do seasonal changes happen?

Seasonal changes happen because due to the 23.5° tilt of the Earth's axis. For a six-month period, the South Pole is tilted towards the Sun. Consequently, the days are longer and the weather is warmer in the southern hemisphere. During the Australian summer, the southern hemisphere is tilted towards the Sun.

4. What are two ways an animal might keep cool in summer?

Answers will vary but will include two of the following: Animals will keep cool in summer by staying in the shade, hardly moving, being active at night and licking themselves.

5. Why do you think a plant may stop growing in the summer?

Answers will vary but may include: A plant might stop growing in summer to save energy and not use a lot of water.

6. Explain why the southern and northern hemispheres have opposite seasons.

The northern and southern hemisphere have different seasons because when the lower part of the Earth tilts towards the Sun, the upper part of the Earth is away from the Sun.

7. Animals and plants change to stay cool in the summer. How do people stay cool in summer?

Answers will vary.

Answers

8. Why would a kangaroo lick itself instead of sweating during summer?

Answers will vary, for example: Kangaroos lick themselves as it's a faster way to cool down.

9. Snakes are cold-blooded animals. How does this affect their behaviour during summer?

It affects their behaviour because they need to go outside to warm their bodies.

10. Why are strawberries a common ingredient in summer desserts? Use evidence from the text to explain your answer.

Strawberries are a common ingredient in summer desserts because during the summer, soft fruits, such as tomatoes, strawberries and peaches, are ripe and ready to eat.