

SOLSTICE

Around the World on the Longest, Shortest Day

What is the solstice?

On the 20th or 21st of June each year, the North Pole is tilted towards the Sun, so it gets more hours of sunlight and longer days. This is the summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere. At the same time, the South Pole tilts away from the Sun, so it is the winter solstice in the Southern Hemisphere, and days are shorter and temperatures colder.

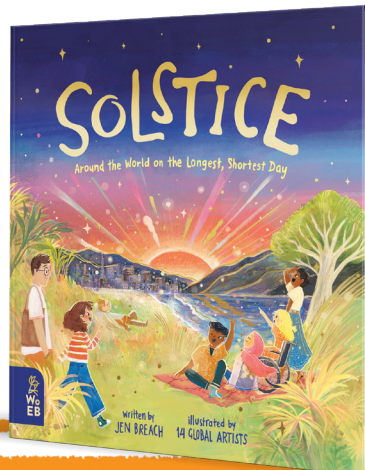
Did you know...

...that in **Antarctica** on the June solstice there are 0 hours of sunlight and in the **Arctic Circle**, such as in northernmost **Norway**, there are 24 hours of sunlight?

...in **Argentina**, they have a ritual where you write down your problems and then throw the paper into a fire? This symbolizes starting afresh.

...that in the **UK**, when the sun rises over **Stonehenge**, the shadow of the Heel Stone touches the centre of the Stone Circle? This only happens on the summer solstice.

...that every language has a word for the Sun? Some of the ones you'll learn in this book are *taiyou* (Japanese), *solen* (Norwegian), and *shams* (Arabic).



Norway



Antarctica



Argentina



Ecuador

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Draw a picture or write about what you do on the June solstice. Or imagine what it would be like to experience the solstice in another country.

What do you do on the solstice?

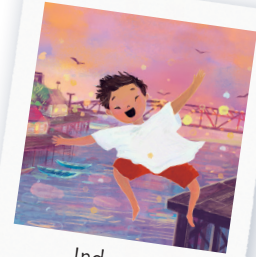


Australia

How many hours of sunshine will there be?



Morocco



Indonesia

Who will you spend the solstice with?



Nepal

What will you eat?
What will you wear?

