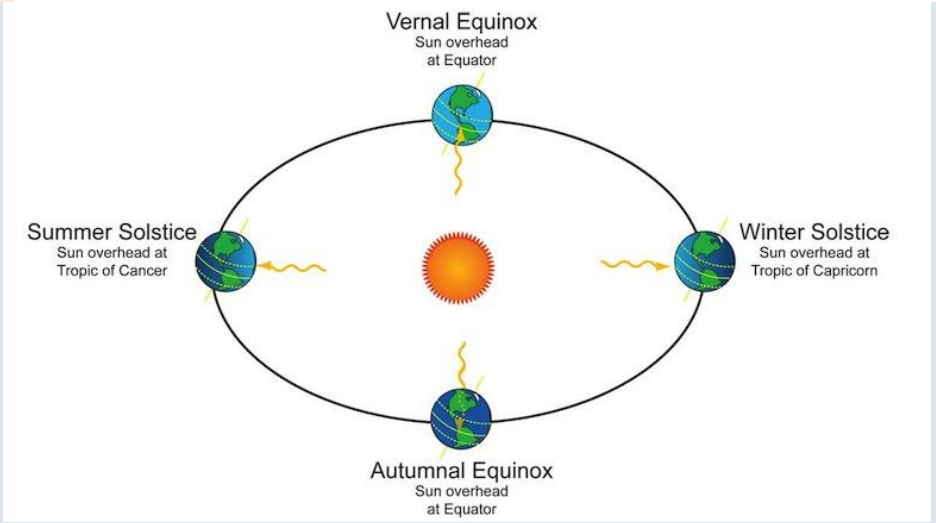
June 20th was the summer solstice, also called the “longest day of the year”.

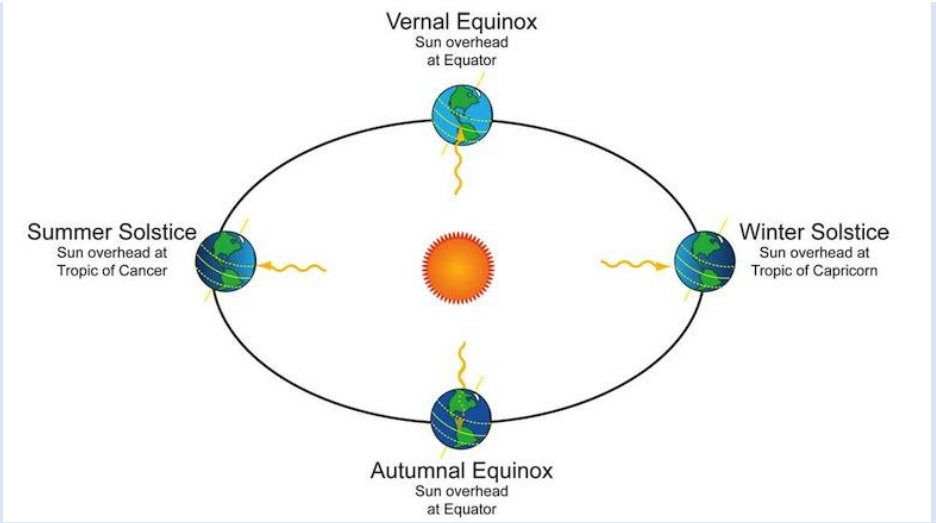
In the summer, days feel longer because the Sun rises earlier in the morning and sets later at night. When the North Pole of the Earth is tilted toward the Sun, we in the northern hemisphere receive more sunlight and it's summer.

The day that the Earth's North Pole is tilted closest to the sun is called the summer solstice. This is the longest day (most daylight hours) of the year for people living in the northern hemisphere. It is also the day that the Sun reaches its highest point in the sky.

At the summer solstice, the sun rises behind the Heel Stone at Stonehenge and its first rays shine into its heart. It is a mystery how it was built this way.



1. What day was it on June 20th?
2. Why do the days feel longer?
3. Is it the longest day for people in the southern hemisphere?
4. Where at Stonehenge does the sun rise on the summer solstice?
5. Do we know how Stonehenge was built this way? What ideas do you have?



1. What day was it on June 20th?

Summer solstice

2. Why do the days feel longer? because the Sun rises earlier in the morning and sets later at night

3. Is it the longest day for people in the southern hemisphere? No, just the Northern Hemisphere (note – in the Southern Hemisphere it is the shortest day)

4. Where at Stonehenge does the sun rise on the summer solstice? The sun rises behind the heel stone (the first sun rays shine into its heart)

5. Do we know how Stonehenge was built this way? What ideas do you have? No, we do not know. Own answers and thoughts about how it might have happened.