
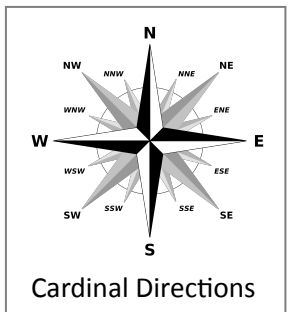


SEASONS KEY TERMS

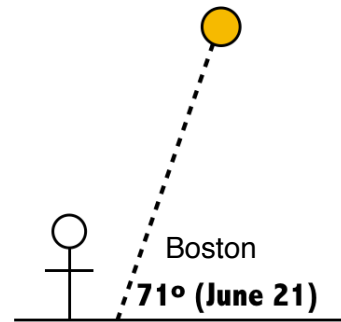
<u>Rotation:</u>	turning or spinning on an axis; Earth's rotation is the reason we experience night/day .
<u>Revolution/ Orbit:</u>	movement or path around another object; Earth's revolution around the sun takes one Earth year (365 days).
<u>Axis:</u>	an imaginary line around which the Earth spins or rotates
<u>Sunrise:</u>	when a given point on Earth rotates from the unlit half to the lit half; "daytime" begins.
<u>Sunset:</u>	when a given point on Earth rotates from the lit half to the unlit half; "nighttime" begins.
<u>Cardinal Directions:</u>	Directions of north, east, south, and west. (See diagram to right).
<u>Horizon:</u>	An imaginary line where the sky and the ground appear to meet. (Has a sky angle of 0 degrees.)
<u>Directly Overhead:</u>	The point in the sky that is straight above. (Has a sky angle of 90 degrees.) Unless you live within 23.5° latitude of the equator, the sun is NEVER directly overhead.
<u>Sky Angle:</u>	Measure (in degrees) of how high above the horizon an object is in the sky.
<u>Sun Angle:</u>	Sky angle of the Sun.
<u>Equinox:</u>	2 days of the year when we experience equal hours of daylight and night time (12 hours each) - March 21 and Sept 21
<u>Tilted Axis:</u>	Earth's axis is tilted at 23.5 degrees and is always pointed toward the North Star, Polaris. 



SEASONS KEY IDEAS

Summer - Hot

- Higher sun angle at midday
 - Light concentrated over a small area -> more intense -> warmer
- Longer sun path -> Longer hours of daylight
 - More time to heat up the ground



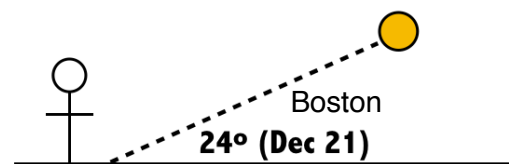
High Sun Angle → More Intense Light → Summer

Fall/Spring - In between

- Medium height sun angle at midday
- Medium length sun path -> medium hours of daylight
- Equinoxes: September 21/March 21 - Equal hours of day/night - 12 hours each

Winter - Cold

- Lower sun angle at midday
 - Light spread out over a larger area -> less intense -> cooler
- Shorter sun path -> Fewer hours of daylight
 - Less time to heat up the ground



Low Sun Angle → Less Intense Light → Winter