

## **Teachers:**

This lesson is dedicated to providing a foundational knowledge of the earth's geometrical relation to the sun and how to predict the sun's position in the sky given a time, date, and position on earth. Note that the material presented in this lesson applies (verbatim) only to the northern hemisphere – inferences can be made, however, about the southern hemisphere. By the end, each student should be able to predict (quantitatively) where the sun will be in the sky given a particular location on earth – perhaps the location of your school. Each slide will contain three annotated sections – Dialogue, Student Prompts, and References - which are intended to increase the ease with which you are able to implement these ideas into your classroom.

## **Dialogue:**

The "Dialogue" portion of these comments is dedicated to main topics that should be discussed and may be presented to you in paragraph or bulleted form. It will contain ideas and supplemental information intended to aid you in the discussion of the essential topic of each slide.

## **Student Prompts:**

This section will contain ideas and questions that I encourage you to present to the students. They may be small activities or a class discussion but all are intended to be thought provoking. Questions will be indicated by the letter "Q" with the corresponding answer indicated with the letter "A."

## **References:**

This section, titled "References" is dedicated to citing images and content references in a scholarly manner. It is unlikely you will need to access this information. Instead, links that I intend for your reference will be included under "Dialogue" or "Student Prompts."

Image: [http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/image/0704/pantheonEarthMoon\\_dalgaard.jpg](http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/image/0704/pantheonEarthMoon_dalgaard.jpg)

## Sponsors

This lesson on solar geometry is possible due to the generosity of ProjectCANDLE and CarbonEARTH. You can visit their respective websites via the following links:

<http://www.engr.psu.edu/candle/>

<http://www.carbonearth.org>



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This module was created by Ph.D. candidate Tony Esposito (e: [txe136@psu.edu](mailto:txe136@psu.edu)) from the Department of Architectural Engineering at Penn State University – University Park. This module was only possible due to the generous contribution of **Project CANDLE** and NSF Sponsored **GK-12 CarbonEARTH**. Visit their perspective websites at the links below:

**ProjectCANDLE:** <http://www.engr.psu.edu/candle/> (**Contact:** Kevin Houser – [khouser@engr.psu.edu](mailto:khouser@engr.psu.edu))

**CarbonEARTH:** <http://www.carbonearth.org> (**Contact:** Renee Diehl – [rdiehl@psu.edu](mailto:rdiehl@psu.edu))

## Introduction / Motivation

This module is dedicated to understanding the geometrical relationship between the Earth and the Sun and learning how to describe the relationship mathematically. By the end of this module you should understand:

1. The tilt of the Earth relative to the Earth's orbit around the sun
2. The influence of this tilt and orbit on seasons at various locations on Earth
3. The location of the sun throughout different times of the year
4. How time (year, day, hour) and position (longitude and latitude) are quantified on Earth
5. Time zones
6. How to calculate the position of the sun at any time and location on Earth

This module is split into 3 major sections, each of which has a worksheet (with key) and an activity (with key). To the teachers discretion, a quiz may accompany each section. A quiz template has been provided. The three sections are:

- I. Understanding the Earth-Sun relationship
- II. Quantifying time and position on Earth
- III. Solar position (calculating solar angles)

## Markers

Various markers will be used throughout this lesson to indicate important aspects of the presentation such as; when a question should be posed, when extra caution should be exercised, or when an activity should be performed. Markers are as follows:



This symbol indicates a question and/or Discussion



This symbol indicates when additional caution should be exercised



This symbol indicates an activity!



This symbol indicates a worksheet. There is one worksheet per section



This symbol indicates a quiz. There is one quiz per section

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### **Dialogue:**

These symbols will be used throughout the lesson to indicate various action items. Introduce these symbols and their meanings to the students.

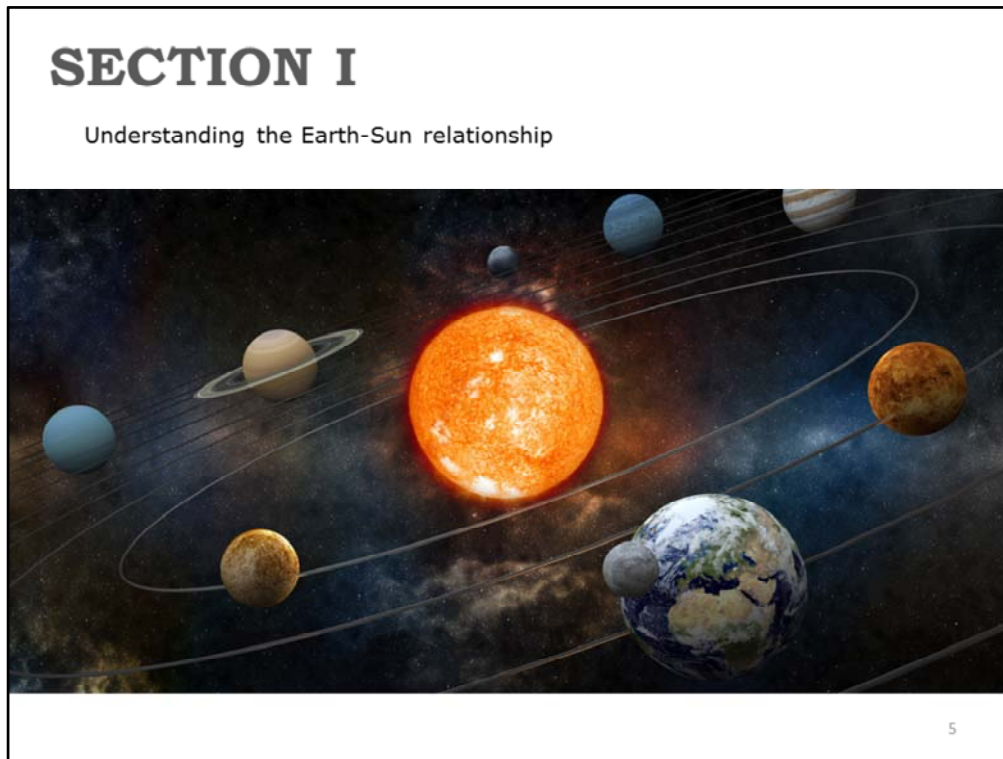
### **Student Prompts:**

Be sure the students understand what each of these symbols indicates.

### **Reference:**

Question Mark (image): <http://www.clker.com/clipart-7596.html>

Cautionary Mark (image): <http://www.public-domain-photos.com/free-cliparts/computer/actions/warning-1250.htm>



The **first** section of this lesson is dedicated to understanding the fundamentals of the Earth's relationship to the sun and integrating the appropriate terminology into our vocabulary. At the end of **SECTION 1** students should understand the following:

- The Earth's orbit around the sun
- The Earth's rotation around its own axis
- The tilt of the Earth's axis relative to the sun
- The cause of the season on earth (i.e. earths axial tilt)

Additionally, students will be able to plot – as viewed from above – the location of the earth relative to the sun indicating the earths position for the four seasons and the directions of rotation of the earth around the sun and the earth around its own axis.

**References:**

Image credit: <http://oldroadapples.wordpress.com/2014/02/21/1-in-4-americans-think-sun-rotates-around-earth/>

## What do you know?

### **Class discussion**

Use the space below to document the students' current knowledge of solar geometry:

SECTION 1: Understanding the Earth-Sun relationship

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### **Dialogue:**

Use this time to probe the students' current knowledge about the various topics to be presented in this section:

- The Earth's orbit around the sun
- The Earth's rotation around its own axis
- The tilt of the Earth's axis relative to the sun
- The cause of the season on earth (i.e. earths axial tilt)

### **Student Prompts:**

Encourage the students to begin to think about the geometry between the earth and the sun as the earth orbits around the sun and rotates about its own (tilted) axis.

### **References:**

No references for this slide.

## Videos

### **Mechanism of the Seasons**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLRA87TKXLM>

### **Physical Science 9.2a - The Earth Moon Sun**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FjCKwkJfg6Ym>

### **Physical Science 9.2b - Rotation and Revolution**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=op6vsLNf3WY>

### **Spaceship Earth - An animated documentary of how Earth works 1/52**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JaG70cJ8vDE>



As you watch these videos, think about the following:

- Q: In which direction does the Earth orbit the sun?
- Q: In which direction does the Earth rotate about its own axis?
- Q: What is the Earth's axial tilt? (relative to its orbital plane)
- Q: What causes the seasons on earth?
- Q: How does time of year effect length of day?
- Q: How do we technically define: year, day, hour.

SECTION 1: Understanding the Earth-Sun relationship

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### **Dialogue:**

You may front-load these videos and then proceed with the remainder of the powerpoint, or you may show them periodically throughout the presentation as you feel most appropriate. There are many more resources online that you may utilize. A quick google search should reveal many.


### **Student Prompts:**

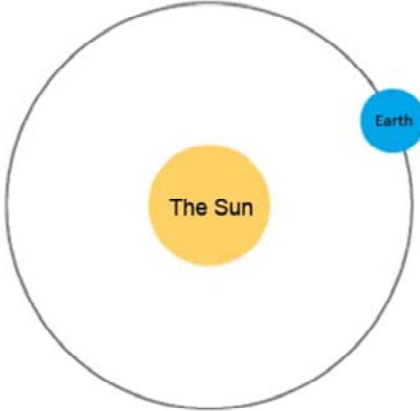
Encourage the students to pay close attention to these videos and form their own questions about the topics presented. Additionally, it may be helpful to have the students review the worksheet before watching the video to anticipate the information to pay particular attention to.

### **References:**

No references for this slide.

## Earth's Orbit

 When viewing the solar system from above ("*Plan View*"), in which direction does the **EARTH** rotate around the **SUN**?



Sizes and distances not to scale

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**Dialogue:**

To your discretion. The complexity of the conversation around this question will depend on the students' previous knowledge of the subject matter.

**Student Prompts:**

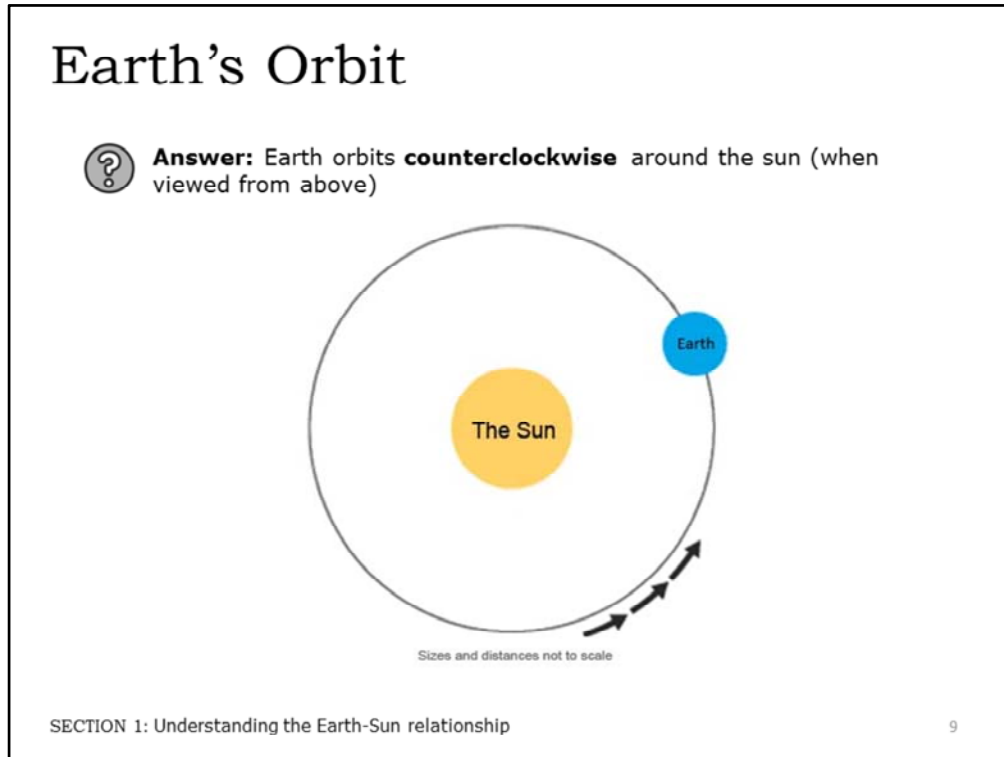
Q: When viewing the solar system from above ("*Plan View*"), in which direction does the **EARTH** rotate around the **SUN**?

**References:**

Image (modified from its original version):

[http://www.eyeonthesky.org/lessonplans/08sun\\_moonplayground.html](http://www.eyeonthesky.org/lessonplans/08sun_moonplayground.html)





**Dialogue:**

The earth orbits the sun in a counterclockwise (anti-clockwise) manner.

**Student Prompts:**

A: Earth orbits **counterclockwise** around the sun (when viewed from above).

Have the students record the above answer on their worksheet.

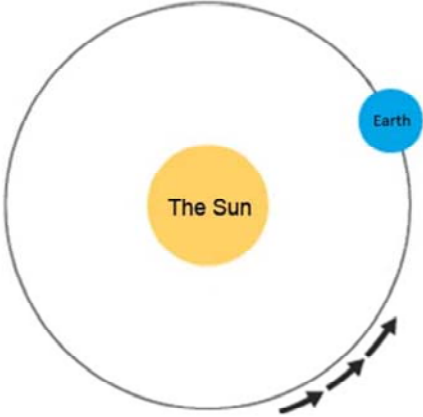
**References:**

Image (modified from its original version):

[http://www.eyeonthesky.org/lessonplans/08sun\\_moonplayground.html](http://www.eyeonthesky.org/lessonplans/08sun_moonplayground.html)

## Earth's Rotation

When viewed from above ("*Plan View*"), in which direction does the **EARTH** rotate around **its own axis**?



The diagram shows a central yellow circle labeled "The Sun" surrounded by a larger circle representing Earth's orbit. A smaller blue circle labeled "Earth" is positioned on the orbit. Three curved arrows on the orbit indicate a counter-clockwise direction of travel. Below the orbit, the text "Sizes and distances not to scale" is written.

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**Dialogue:**

To your discretion. The complexity of the conversation around this question will depend on the students' previous knowledge of the subject matter.

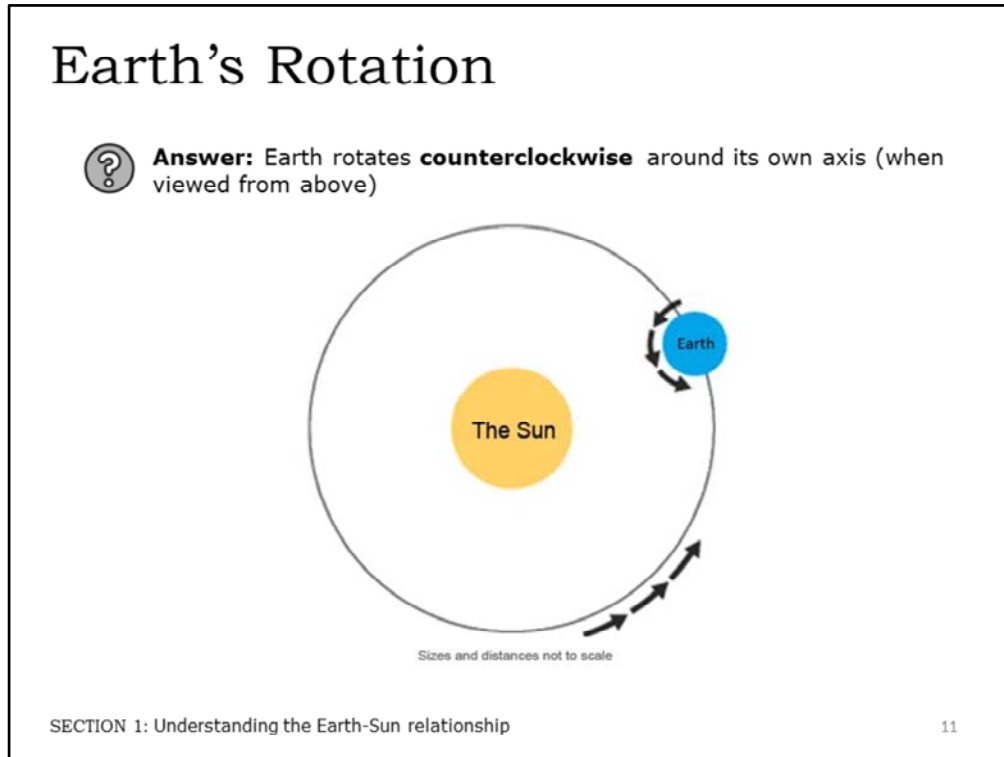
**Student Prompts:**

Q: When viewed from above ("*Plan View*"), in which direction does the **EARTH** rotate around **its own axis**?

**References:**

Image (modified from its original version):

[http://www.eyeonthesky.org/lessonplans/08sun\\_moonplayground.html](http://www.eyeonthesky.org/lessonplans/08sun_moonplayground.html)



**Dialogue:**

The earth rotates around its own axis in a counterclockwise (anti-clockwise) manner.

**Student Prompts:**

A: Earth rotates **counterclockwise** around its own axis (when viewed from above).


Have the students record the above answer on their worksheet.

**References:**

Image (modified from its original version):

[http://www.eyeonthesky.org/lessonplans/08sun\\_moonplayground.html](http://www.eyeonthesky.org/lessonplans/08sun_moonplayground.html)

# Earth's tilt

 What is the Earth's axial tilt relative to its orbital plane?

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**Dialogue:**

To your discretion. The complexity of the conversation around this question will depend on the students' previous knowledge of the subject matter.

**Student Prompts:**

Q: What is the Earth's axial tilt relative to its orbital plane?

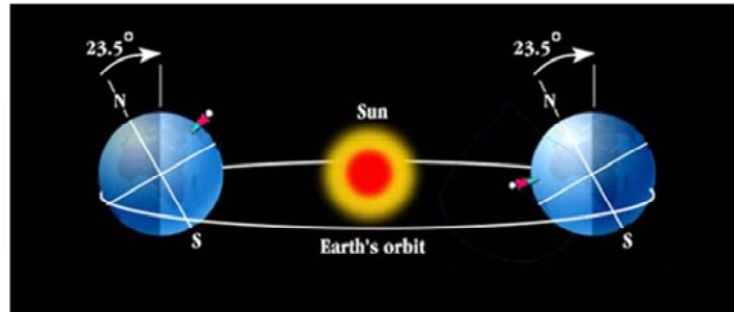
**References:**

No references for this slide.

## Earth's tilt



**Answer:** Earth is tilted off-axis **23.5°** relative to its own orbital plane



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### Dialogue:

Any further discussion useful for your classroom.

### Student Prompts:

A: Earth is tilted off-axis **23.5°** relative to its own orbital plane

Have the students record the above answer on their worksheets.

### References:

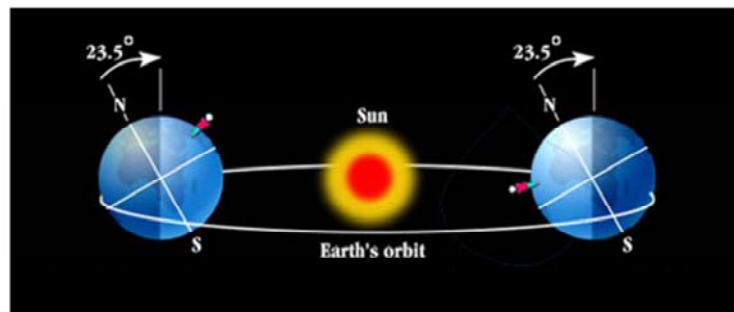
Image credit:

[http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought\\_in\\_the\\_Amazon\\_A\\_death\\_spiral\\_part\\_1\\_seasons.html](http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought_in_the_Amazon_A_death_spiral_part_1_seasons.html)

## Earth's tilt



What effect, if any, does this axial tilt have on our experience on earth?



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### Dialogue:

Encourage the students to consider how the axial tilt affects our earthly experience!

### Student Prompts:

Encourage the students to consider what effect this axial tilt has on our experience on earth.

Q: (In the northern hemisphere) What time of year will the sun feel the hottest? How does this relate to the earth's tilt?

Q: (In the northern hemisphere) What time of year will the sun feel the coolest? How does this relate to the earth's tilt?

Q: What conclusions can you make about the relationship between the seasons and the earth's axial tilt?

Q: How would the axial tilt effect the location (we perceive) the sun to be in the sky? (More on this later)

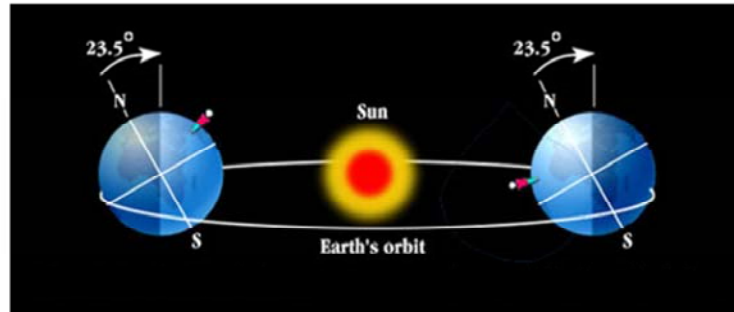
### References:

Image credit:

[http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought\\_in\\_the\\_Amazon\\_A\\_death\\_spiral\\_part\\_1\\_seasons.html](http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought_in_the_Amazon_A_death_spiral_part_1_seasons.html)

## Earth's tilt

🔍 Earth's axial tilt causes the **seasons!**



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### Dialogue:

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### Student Prompts:

A: The sun is the hottest in the summer. This is when the earth is tilted **towards** the sun.

A: The sun is the coldest in the winter. This is when the earth is tilted **away** from the sun.

A: Summer is when the sun is tilted toward the sun – Winter is when the sun is tilted away from the sun. What about the equinoxes?

A: (Northern Hemisphere) Sun is highest in the sky during summer and lowest in the sky during winter.

### References:

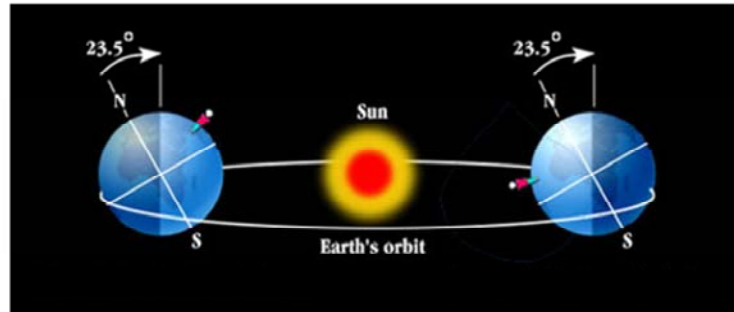
Image credit:

[http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought\\_in\\_the\\_Amazon\\_A\\_death\\_spiral\\_part\\_1\\_seasons.html](http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought_in_the_Amazon_A_death_spiral_part_1_seasons.html)

## Earth's tilt



In the diagram below, which season are represented?



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### Dialogue:

Encourage the students to think about their location on earth and how the axial tilt will position them closer or further away from the sun (based on the time of the year).

### Student Prompts:

Q: In the diagram, which season are represented?

### References:

Image credit:

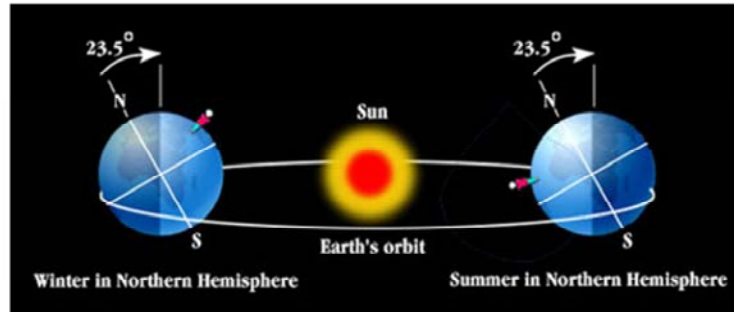
[http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought\\_in\\_the\\_Amazon\\_A\\_death\\_spiral\\_part\\_1\\_seasons.html](http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought_in_the_Amazon_A_death_spiral_part_1_seasons.html)



## Earth's tilt



The earth on the left, is winter in the *northern hemisphere* because the earth is tilted **away** from the sun. The earth on the right is summer in the *northern hemisphere* because the earth is tilted **toward** the sun.



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### Dialogue:

At this time it might be useful to encourage the students to think about how this axial tilt relates to the perceived height of the sun in the sky. That is – in the northern hemisphere – the sun appears highest in the sky during summer (summer solstice) and lowest in the sky during winter (winter solstice).

### Student Prompts:

A: (Left) Winter in the northern hemisphere – (Right) Summer in the northern hemisphere  
Be sure that the students fully understand this concept. It will be extremely important for the remainder of this lesson and will be the main focus of the activity at the end of this section.

### References:

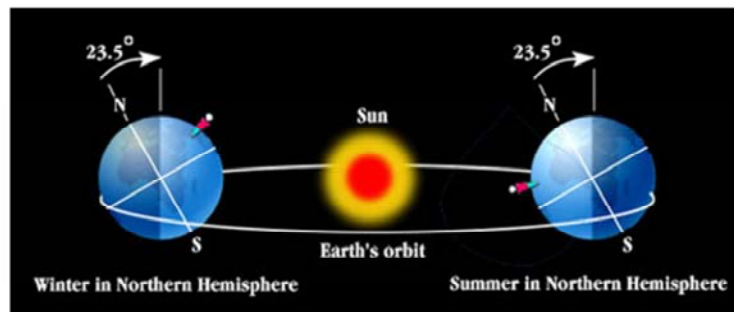
Image credit:

[http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought\\_in\\_the\\_Amazon\\_A\\_death\\_spiral\\_part\\_1\\_seasons.html](http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought_in_the_Amazon_A_death_spiral_part_1_seasons.html)

## Earth's tilt



Why must we make the distinction of "northern hemisphere?"



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### Dialogue:

At this time it might be useful to encourage the students to think about how this axial tilt relates to the perceived height of the sun in the sky. That is – in the northern hemisphere – the sun appears highest in the sky during summer (summer solstice) and lowest in the sky during winter (winter solstice).

### Student Prompts:

Q: Why must we make the distinction of "northern hemisphere?"

### References:

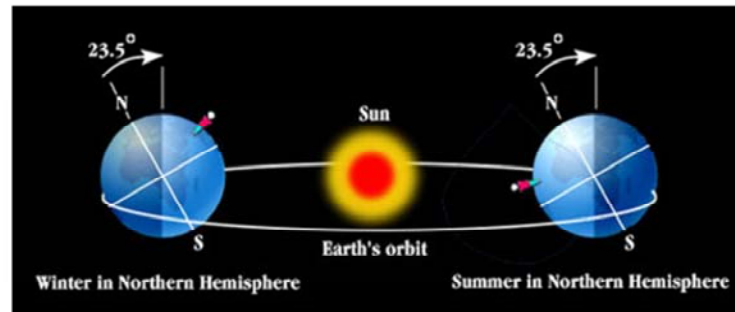
Image credit:

[http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought\\_in\\_the\\_Amazon\\_A\\_death\\_spiral\\_part\\_1\\_seasons.html](http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought_in_the_Amazon_A_death_spiral_part_1_seasons.html)

## Earth's tilt



**Answer:** because the seasons are reversed in the southern hemisphere! That is, when the northern hemisphere has summer (sun highest in the sky), the southern hemisphere has winter (sun lowest in the sky).



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### Dialogue:

At this time it might be useful to encourage the students to think about how this axial tilt relates to the perceived height of the sun in the sky. That is – in the northern hemisphere – the sun appears highest in the sky during summer (summer solstice) and lowest in the sky during winter (winter solstice).

### Student Prompts:

A: Because the seasons are reversed in the southern hemisphere! That is, when the northern hemisphere has summer (sun highest in the sky), the southern hemisphere has winter (sun lowest in the sky).

### References:

Image credit:

[http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought\\_in\\_the\\_Amazon\\_A\\_death\\_spiral\\_part\\_1\\_seasons.html](http://www.skepticalscience.com/Drought_in_the_Amazon_A_death_spiral_part_1_seasons.html)

## Key Terms

- Year**
- Day**
- Hour**
- Julian Day**
- Summer Solstice**
- Winter Solstice**
- Vernal (Spring) Equinox**
- Autumnal (Fall) Equinox**

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**Dialogue:**

Presented here are the key terms that students should familiarize themselves with. It is to your discretion how you'd like to present these definitions to the students. I've included it at the end anticipating that it might be best to assign a technical definition to these words after they've been presented in the videos, discussed with the class, and worked into normal vocabulary.

**Student Prompts:**

Technical Definitions

**References:**

No references for this slide.

## Key Terms (defined)

<b>Year</b>	the amount of <i>time</i> it takes for the earth to complete one complete orbit around the sun (approximated 365 days)
<b>Day</b>	the amount of <i>time</i> it takes for the earth to complete one full rotation about it's own axis (approximately 24 <i>hours</i> )
<b>Hour</b>	the amount of <i>time</i> it takes for a fixed point on earth to rotate through 15° (360° / 24 hours)
<b>Julian Day</b>	the whole number integer assigned to each day as it falls chronologically throughout the year. That is, the range of Julian day is from 1 - 365. For example, March 23 = 31 (Jan) + 28 (Feb) + 23 (March) = 82

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### Dialogue:

Presented here are the key terms that students should familiarize themselves with. It is to your discretion how you'd like to present these definitions to the students. I've included it at the end anticipating that it might be best to assign a technical definition to these words after they've been presented in the videos, discussed with the class, and worked into normal vocabulary.

### Student Prompts:

Technical Definitions

### References:

Modified Wikipedia entries were used in definition of terms.

## Key Terms (defined)

<b>Summer Solstice</b>	the time of the year when the sun reaches its highest position in the sky (in the northern hemisphere). This occurs on June 21/22
<b>Winter Solstice</b>	the time of the year when the sun reaches its lowest position in the sky (in the northern hemisphere). This occurs on December 21/22.
<b>Vernal (Spring) Equinox</b>	the period of the year (following summer) when all places on earth receive equal amounts of daylight and night. This occurs around March 20.
<b>Autumnal (Fall) Equinox</b>	the period of the year (following winter) when all places on earth receive equal amounts of daylight and night. This occurs around September 22.

SECTION 1: Understanding the Earth-Sun relationship

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### Dialogue:

Presented here are the key terms that students should familiarize themselves with. It is to your discretion how you'd like to present these definitions to the students. I've included it at the end anticipating that it might be best to assign a technical definition to these words after they've been presented in the videos, discussed with the class, and worked into normal vocabulary.

### Student Prompts:

Technical Definitions

### References:

Modified Wikipedia entries were used in definition of terms.

## A Activity

Draw (in plan view) the earth's position in relation to the sun during the following four times of the year and indicate their Julian Day:

- June 22 (Summer Solstice)
- September 23 (Autumnal Equinox)
- December 22 (Winter Solstice)
- March 21 (Vernal Equinox)

Additionally, indicate the Earth's orbital position on your birthday and calculate the Julian Day for your birthday!

For reference, the number of days in each month are provided below:

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
# of days	31	28	31	30	31	30	31	31	30	31	30	31

SECTION 1: Understanding the Earth-Sun relationship

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### Dialogue:

In this activity students will demonstrate their understanding of the Earth-Sun geometry by drawing a plan view of Earth's orbit around the sun indicating the four (major) dates (positions) listed above. Refer to the link below for additional help with this activity:

<http://www.moonstick.com/motions.htm>

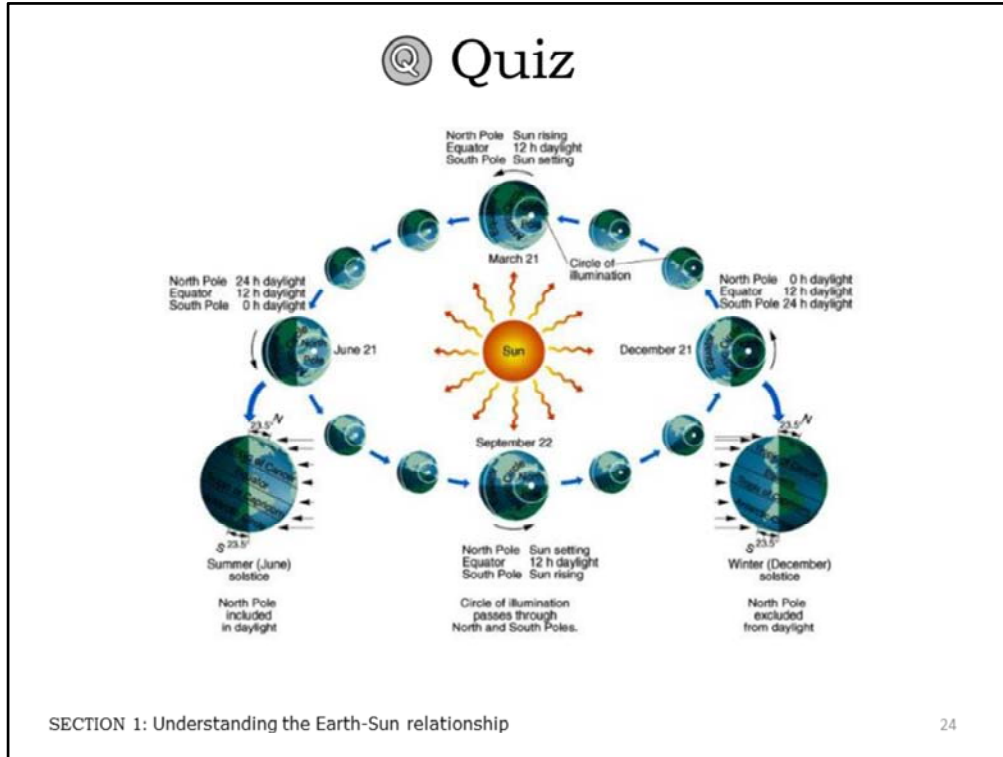
### Student Prompts:

Students should fully document and **label** the above positions with titles, dates, appropriate Julian day, and the direction of Earth's tilt. Inclusion of the birthday activity is encourage each student to personalize their assignment.

**NOTE:** Calculation of Julian day will be critical for later sections!

### References:

No references for this slide.



**Dialogue:**

The image provided above is there for reference only. It is to your discretion if you'd like it present during the quiz.

The “quiz” sheet has been intentionally left blank. Quizzing is being left to your discretion so that you may emphasize material/topics that you find most important. It may be material taken from the videos, presentation, worksheets, activities, any combination of them, or something else.

The main purpose of the “quiz” sheet is to serve as a **quiz template** that maintains the format of the other education material used in this lesson.

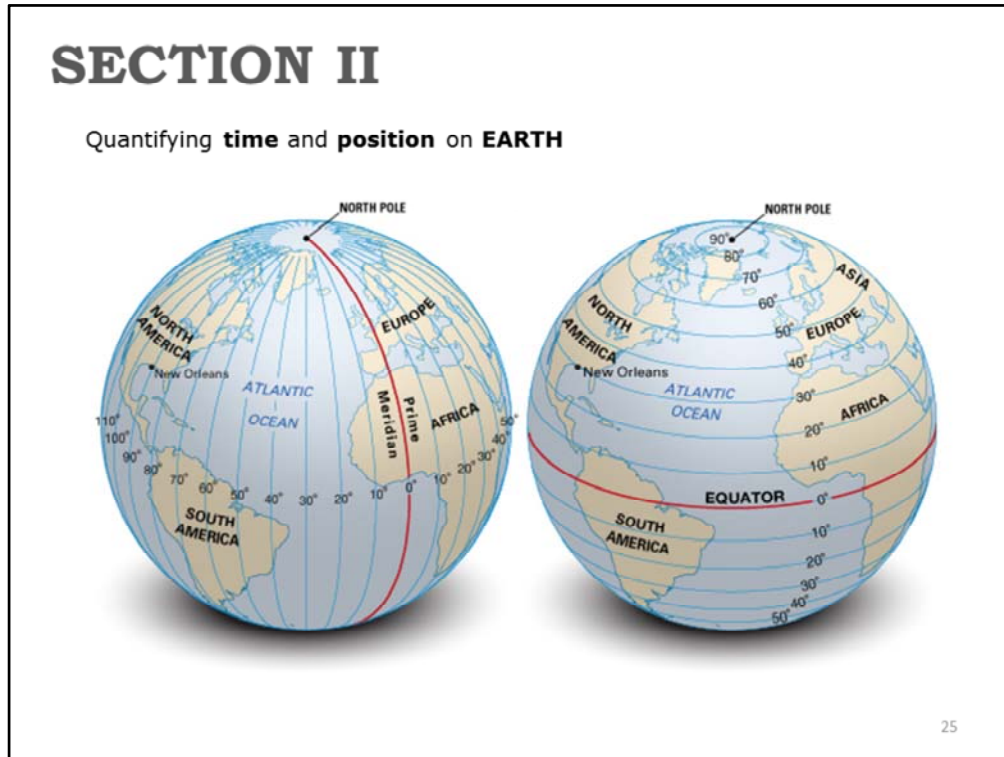
**Student Prompts:**

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**References:**

Image credit: <http://oldroadapples.wordpress.com/2014/02/21/1-in-4-americans-think-sun-rotates-around-earth/>





The **second** section of this lesson is dedicated to understanding how we quantify *time* and *position* on earth and integrating the appropriate terminology into our vocabulary. At the end of **SECTION 2** students should understand the following:

- How longitude is defined
- How latitude is defined
- How longitude and latitude are used to define a position on Earth
- How these lines correspond to time and time zones.

**References:**

Latitude image: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>

Longitude image: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109271?topicId=331993>

## Videos

### **Latitude and Longitude**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=swKBI6hHHMA>

### **How the International Date Line Works**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPpWCTHjzQI>

### **Understanding Time Zones**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1DkiuaFCuA>

### **Animation Explaining the International Date Line | Video**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m0QOIFIZKXI>



As you watch these videos, think about the following:

- Q: What is the shape of the earth?
- Q: What is the purpose of latitude and longitude?
- Q: How do we describe location on earth?
- Q: How do these imaginary lines relate to keeping time on Earth?
- Q: Where does a new day begin?
- Q: What is the international date line?

SECTION 2: Quantifying time and position on EARTH

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### **Dialogue:**

You may front-load these videos and then proceed with the remainder of the powerpoint, or you may show them periodically throughout the presentation as you feel most appropriate. There are many more resources online that you may utilize. A quick google search should reveal many.


### **Student Prompts:**

Encourage the students to pay close attention to these videos and form their own questions about the topics presented. Additionally, it may be helpful to have the students review the worksheet before watching the video to anticipate the information to pay particular attention to.

### **References:**

No references for this slide.

# Latitude

 What is latitude?

SECTION 2: Quantifying time and position on EARTH 27

**Dialogue:**

Depending on your grade level, *latitude* may be a familiar topic. In any case, you may use this time to identify the knowledge of your students and pinpoint any gaps in their knowledge.

**Student Prompts:**

Q: What is latitude?

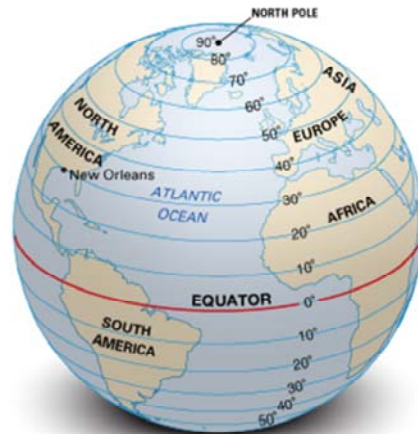
**References:**

No references for this slide.

# Latitude



Latitude is a geographical coordinate that specifies the **north-south** position of a point on the Earth's surface.



SECTION 2: Quantifying time and position on EARTH

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## Dialogue:

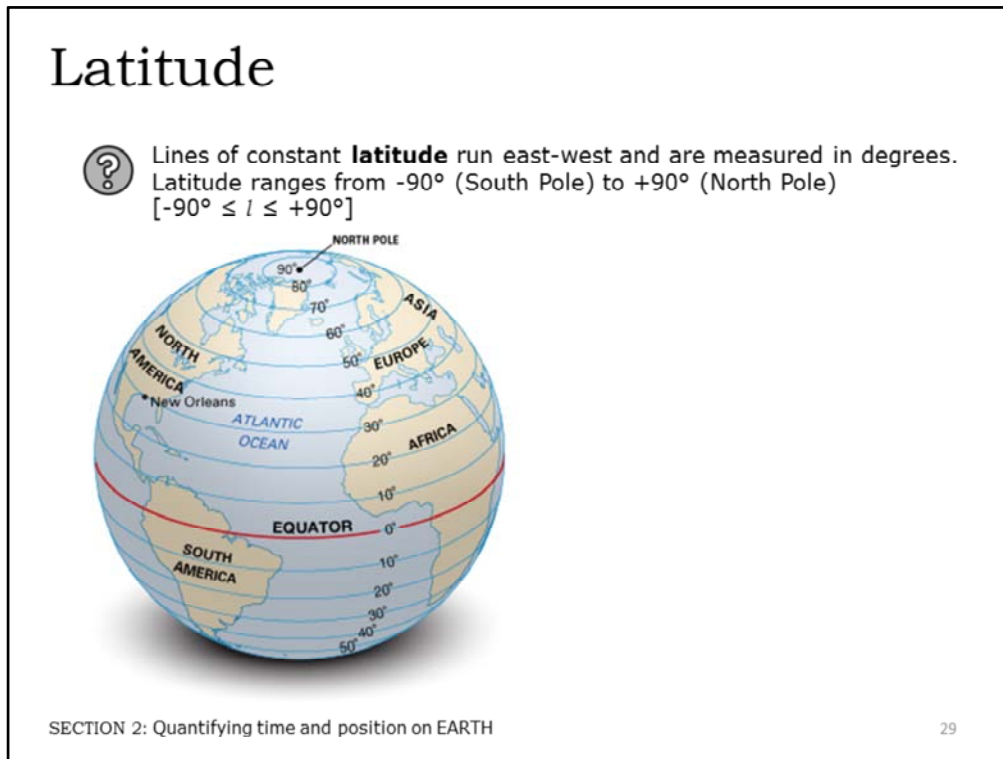
Use the picture above to reiterate the fact that lines of constant latitude are concentric circles parallel with the equator.

## Student Prompts:

A: Latitude is a geographical coordinate that specifies the **north-south** position of a point on the Earth's surface.

## References:

Image credit: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>



**Dialogue:**

If students do not fully understand the concept of a “convention” it might be best to take the time to explore the topic. That is, the north pole is  $+90^\circ$  ( $90^\circ$  N) latitude by *convention*. By convention, the south pole is  $-90^\circ$  ( $90^\circ$  S) latitude.

Introduce the idea that the positive and negative symbols can be removed and replaced with N (for “North”) and S (for “South”). That is, “N” corresponds to a *positive* latitude, whereas “S” corresponds to a *negative* latitude.

**Student Prompts:**

Lines of constant latitude are measure in degrees and range from  $-90^\circ$  (South Pole) and  $+90^\circ$  (North Pole)

If students don’t understand the concept of a “convention” it

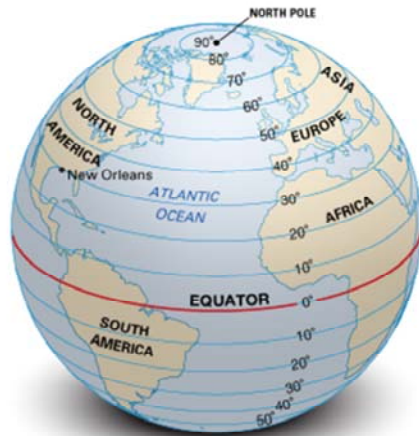
**References:**

Image credit: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>

# Latitude



Where is the logical place for the lines of  $0^\circ$  latitude?



SECTION 2: Quantifying time and position on EARTH

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**Dialogue:**

Sharp students will notice that the answer to the question is in the picture!


**Student Prompts:**

A: Where is the logical place for the lines of  $0^\circ$  latitude?

**References:**

Image credit: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>

# Latitude

 The equator!



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## Dialogue:

Emphasize that the equator is  $0^\circ$  latitude. It is the most logical answer given that it is not only a familiar location on earth, but it also perfectly divides the Earth into what we call the “Northern Hemisphere” and “Southern Hemisphere.”

## Student Prompts:

A: The equator!

## References:

Image credit: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>

# Latitude

## Facts about **latitude**:



- Are known as “parallels”
- Run in an east-west direction
- Measure distance north and south from the equator
- Are parallel to one another and never meet
- Cross the prime meridian at right angle (more on this next)
- Lie in the planes that cross the Earth’s axis as right angles
- Get shorter toward the poles, with the equator as the largest circle

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### **Dialogue:**

Facts about latitude taken from the link below:

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>

### **Student Prompts:**


Review these facts with the class and be sure that the students understand these facts

### **References:**

Image credit: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>



# Longitude

 What is longitude?

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**Dialogue:**

Depending on your grade level, *longitude* may be a familiar topic. In any case, you may use this time to identify the knowledge of your students and pinpoint any gaps in their knowledge.

**Student Prompts:**

Q: What is longitude?

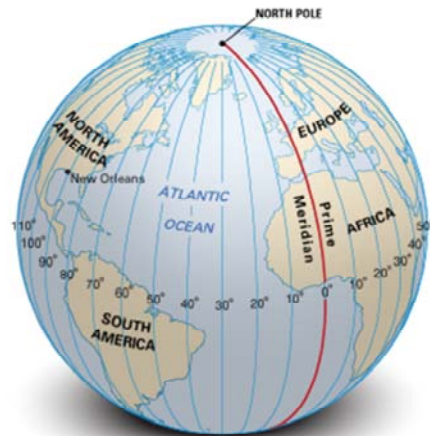
**References:**

No references for this slide.

# Longitude



Longitude is a geographical coordinate that specifies the **east-west** position of a point on the Earth's surface.



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## Dialogue:

Use the image above to reiterate that lines of constant **longitude** pass through the north and south poles and contain—through their center—the Earth's axis.

## Student Prompts:

A: Longitude is a geographical coordinate that specifies the **east-west** position of a point on the Earth's surface.

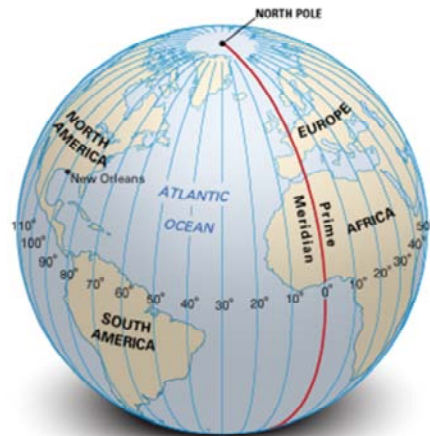
## References:

Image credit: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>

# Longitude



Lines of constant **longitude** run north-south and are measured in degrees. Longitude ranges from  $-180^\circ$  to  $+180^\circ$  [ $-180^\circ \leq L \leq +180^\circ$ ]



SECTION 2: Quantifying time and position on EARTH

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## Dialogue:

The idea of a “convention” will be specifically important for the next few slides as the definition of longitude is not as logical as the definition of latitude.

## Student Prompts:

Lines of constant **longitude** run north-south and are measured in degrees. Longitude ranges from  $-180^\circ$  to  $+180^\circ$  [ $-180^\circ \leq L \leq +180^\circ$ ]

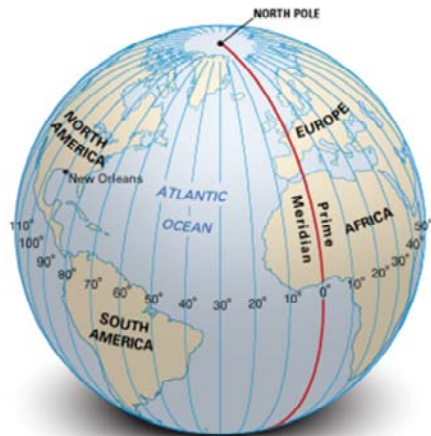
## References:

Image credit: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>

# Longitude



Where is the logical position for 0° longitude?



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## Dialogue:

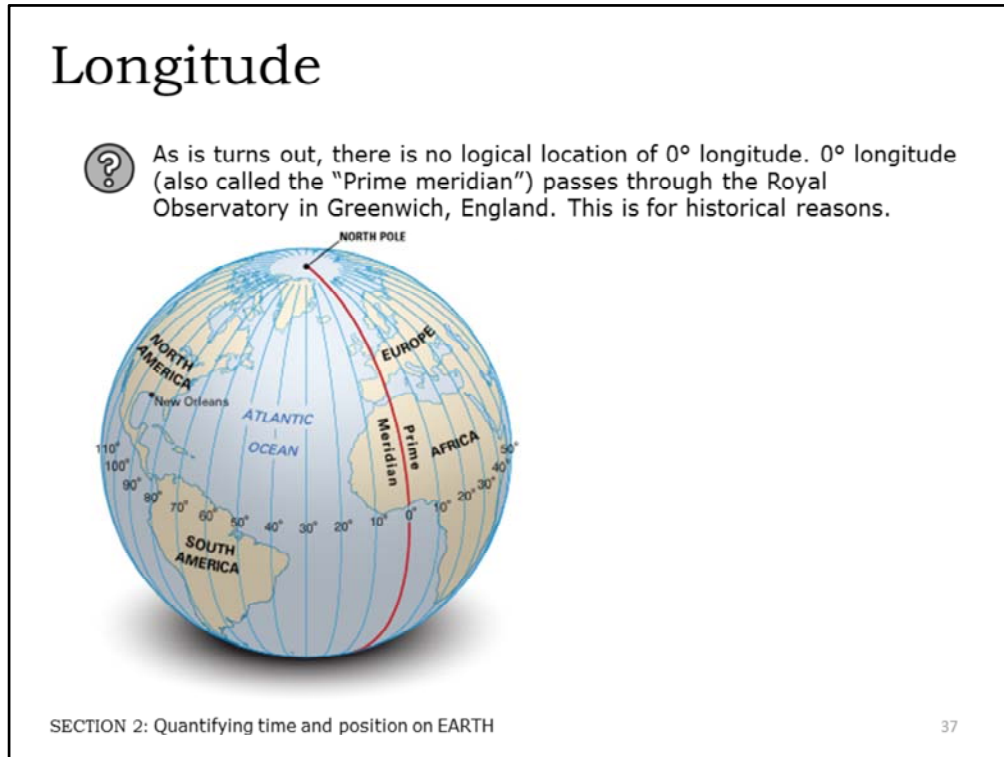
Sharp students will notice that the answer is in the picture above, however it is not necessarily logical.

## Student Prompts:

Q: Where is the logical position for 0° longitude?

## References:

Image credit: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>

**Dialogue:**

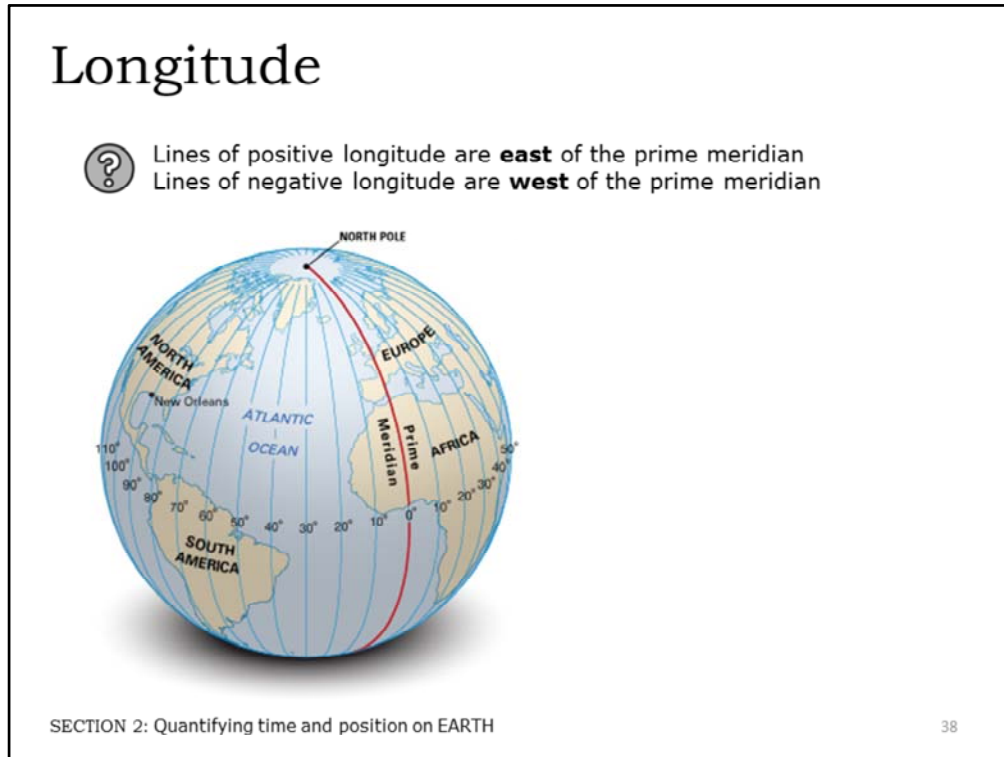
The definition of 0° longitude is not as logical as the definition of 0° latitude. It passes through the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, England and is such because of historical reasons. As a great addition to this course material, I highly recommend adding a history lesson which discusses the historical challenge that navigators faced in determining their longitude at sea. I recommend the book titled "*Longitude: The True Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time*" written by Dava Sobel. It walks through the entire history and discusses the relevance of the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, England.

**Student Prompts:**

A: As is turns out, there is no logical location of 0° longitude. 0° longitude (also called the "Prime meridian") passes through the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, England. This is for historical reasons.

**References:**

Image credit: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>



**Dialogue:**

By *convention* lines of positive longitude are **east** of the prime meridian and lines of negative longitude are **west** of the prime meridian

**Student Prompts:**

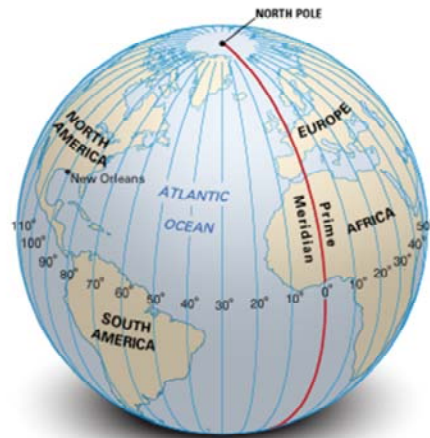
Lines of positive longitude are **east** of the prime meridian  
Lines of negative longitude are **west** of the prime meridian

**References:**

Image credit: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>

# Longitude

## Facts about **longitude**:



- Are known as "meridians"
- Run in a north-south direction
- Measure distance east or west of the prime meridian
- Are farthest apart at the equator and meet at the poles
- Cross the equator at right angles
- Lie in the planes that pass through the Earth's axis
- Are equal in length

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### Dialogue:

Facts about latitude taken from the link below:

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109271?topicId=331993>


### Student Prompts:

Review these facts with the class and be sure that the students understand these facts

### References:

Image credit: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109271?topicId=331993>

# Time zones

 Besides being  $0^\circ$  latitude, what other significance do you think the prime meridian has?

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**Dialogue:**

The prime meridian has other significance than just being the *convention* for  $0^\circ$  latitude. Encourage the students to think of what this significance might be. The topic to be presented next, however, are likely to be unfamiliar to most of the students. Hint: the prime meridian is used in the definition of **Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)** and the **International Date Line** which is the location on Earth that determines when a new calendar day is entered.

**Student Prompts:**

Q: Besides being  $0^\circ$  latitude, what other significance do you think the prime meridian has?

**References:**

No references for this slide.



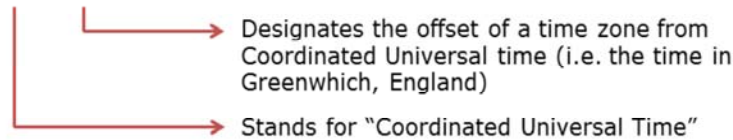
## Time zones



Besides being 0° latitude, what other significance do you think the prime meridian has?

The prime meridian is used as the primary *time standard* by which the whole world regulates their clocks and time! This is called **Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)** and the time zone at the prime meridian is denoted UTC-00:00

### UTC-00:00



Time zones to the **east** of the prime meridian are offset by a positive number. That is, 2pm at UTC-00:00 is 3pm at UTC+01:00

Time zones to the **west** of the prime meridian are offset by a negative number. That is, 2pm at UTC-00:00 is 1pm at UTC-01:00

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### Dialogue:

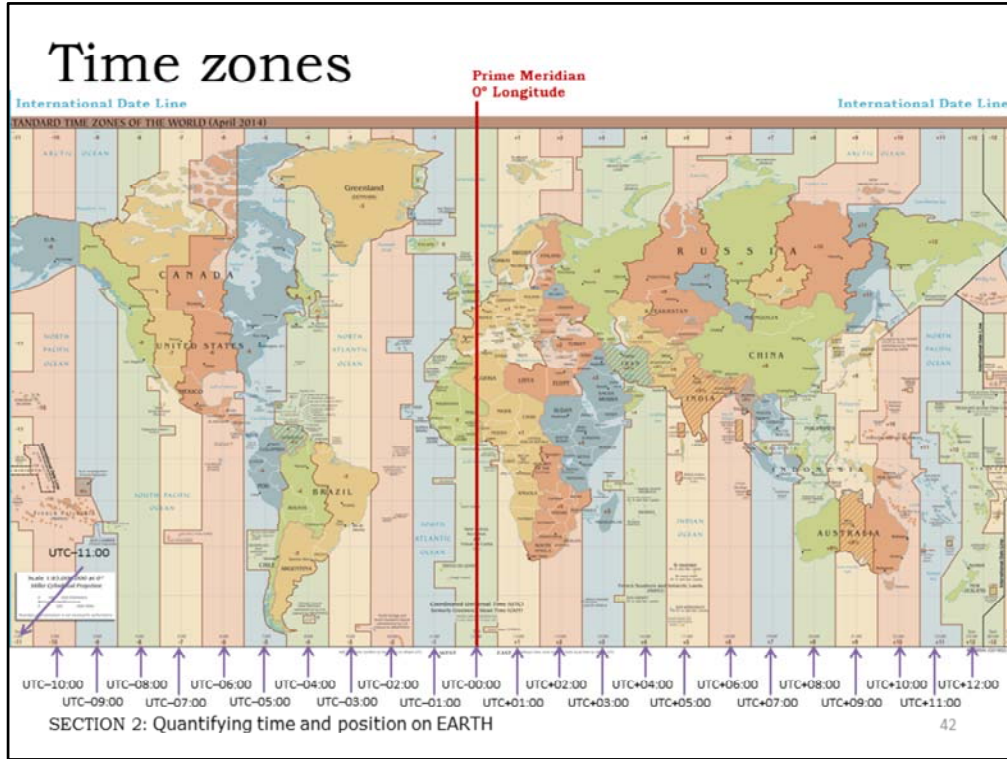
The prime meridian is used to define UTC which is the time standard that is used to regulate clocks and time across the Earth. There are 12 time zones east of the prime meridian (1 per 15° of rotation) and 12 time zones west of the prime meridian (1 per 15° of rotation). (There are actually more than this but they are due to legalities. Understanding that there exists 12 time zones on each side of the prime meridian is sufficient for this lesson).

### Student Prompts:

A: The prime meridian is used as the primary *time standard* by which the whole world regulates their clocks and time! This is called **Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)** and the time zone at the prime meridian is denoted UTC-00:00

### References:

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**Dialogue:**

Use the diagram above to demonstrate the concept of time zones and how it relates to where you live. Make specific now to the location of your school on the map and have the students note this time zone on their worksheets.

Also, point out the “International Date Line” marked above. This hasn’t been discussed yet but will proceed this slide.

**Student Prompts:**

Q: What is the time zone of your house? Your school?

**References:**

Image credit:

[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/88/World\\_Time\\_Zones\\_Map.png](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/88/World_Time_Zones_Map.png)

## International Date Line



What significance does the "International Date Line have?" What important feature do you notice about it (in relation to the prime meridian)?

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### **Dialogue:**

It might be useful to have students do independent or group research into this topic. It may be difficult for students to understand the idea that different places on Earth can have different times and different calendar dates.

### **Student Prompts:**

Q: What significance does the "International Date Line Have?" What important feature do you notice about it (in relation to the prime meridian)?

### **References:**

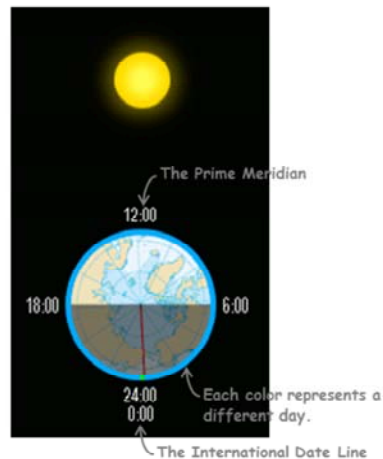
Image credit:

[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/88/World\\_Time\\_Zones\\_Map.png](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/88/World_Time_Zones_Map.png)

## International Date Line



The International Date Line is 180° around the earth from the prime meridian. The International Date Line is the point on Earth where a new calendar day begins!



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### Dialogue:

Use the graphic above (an animated .GIF that can be seen in “slide show” mode) to help demonstrate the idea that a new day begins at the International Date Line and that it is exactly opposite the Prime Meridian on the globe.

### Student Prompts:

A: The International Date Line is 180° around the earth from the prime meridian. The International Date Line is the point on Earth where a new calendar day begins!

### References:

Image credit:

[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/88/World\\_Time\\_Zones\\_Map.png](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/88/World_Time_Zones_Map.png)

## Key Terms

<b>Longitude</b>	<b>International Date Line</b>
<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Southern Hemisphere</b>
<b>Prime Meridian</b>	<b>Northern Hemisphere</b>
<b>North Pole</b>	<b>Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)</b>
<b>South Pole</b>	
<b>Time Zone</b>	

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**Dialogue:**

Presented here are the key terms that students should familiarize themselves with. It is to your discretion how you'd like to present these definitions to the students. I've included it at the end anticipating that it might be best to assign a technical definition to these words after they've been presented in the videos, discussed with the class, and worked into normal vocabulary.

**Student Prompts:**

Technical Definitions

**References:**

No references for this slide.

## Key Terms (defined)

<b>Latitude</b>	is a geographical coordinate that specifies the north-south position of a point on the Earth's surface. Lines of constant latitude run east-west and are measured in degrees. Latitude ranges from $-90^\circ$ (South Pole) to $+90^\circ$ (North Pole). [ $-90^\circ \leq l \leq +90^\circ$ ]
<b>Longitude</b>	is a geographical coordinate that specifies the east-west position of a point on the Earth's surface. Lines of constant longitude run north-south and are measured in degrees. Longitude ranges from $-180^\circ$ to $+180^\circ$ [ $-180^\circ \leq L \leq +180^\circ$ ]
<b>Prime Meridian</b>	the prime meridian is recognized as the line of $0^\circ$ longitude and runs north-south through the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, London
<b>Northern Hemisphere</b>	is the half of a planet that is north of Earth's equator.
<b>Southern Hemisphere</b>	is the half of a planet that is south of Earth's equator.

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### Dialogue:

Presented here are the key terms that students should familiarize themselves with. It is to your discretion how you'd like to present these definitions to the students. I've included it at the end anticipating that it might be best to assign a technical definition to these words after they've been presented in the videos, discussed with the class, and worked into normal vocabulary.

### Student Prompts:

Technical Definitions

### References:

Modified Wikipedia entries were used in definition of terms.

## Key Terms (defined)

<b>North Pole</b>	is the northern most point in the Northern Hemisphere where the Earth's axis of rotation meets the Earth's surface.
<b>South Pole</b>	is the southernmost point on the surface of the Earth in the Southern Hemisphere. It lies on the opposite side of the Earth from the North Pole and is the other location where the Earth's axis of rotation meets the Earth's surface.
<b>Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)</b>	is the primary standard by which the whole world regulates their clocks and time! It is located at the prime meridian and is denoted as UTC-00:00.
<b>Time Zone</b>	A time zone is a region (of Earth) that has a uniform standard time for legal, commercial, and social purposes. There are (approximately) 12 time zones east of the prime meridian (1 per 15° of rotation) and 12 time zones west of the prime meridian (1 per 15° of rotation).
<b>International Date Line</b>	is the location on Earth where a calendar day begins and it located 180° around the Earth from the prime meridian.

SECTION 2: Quantifying time and position on EARTH

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### Dialogue:

Presented here are the key terms that students should familiarize themselves with. It is to your discretion how you'd like to present these definitions to the students. I've included it at the end anticipating that it might be best to assign a technical definition to these words after they've been presented in the videos, discussed with the class, and worked into normal vocabulary.

### Student Prompts:

Technical Definitions

### References:

Modified Wikipedia entries were used in definition of terms.

## Activity

Together, longitude and latitude form a coordinate system to quickly and easily identify a position on Earth. The goal of this activity is to familiarize students with using longitude and latitude to locate places on Earth.



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### Dialogue:

In this activity students will demonstrate their understanding of longitude and latitude by finding geographical coordinates for specified places, and drawing their location on a diagram indicating the appropriate coordinates.

Note that longitude and latitude can be expressed as fractional degrees or in terms of “minutes” and “seconds.” For simplicity, I recommend sticking with fractional degrees as this is the easiest format to understand and understanding the conversion from “minutes” and “seconds” to fractional degrees is of little important for this lesson.

For added problems, utilize the following video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcfqKiEmleQ>

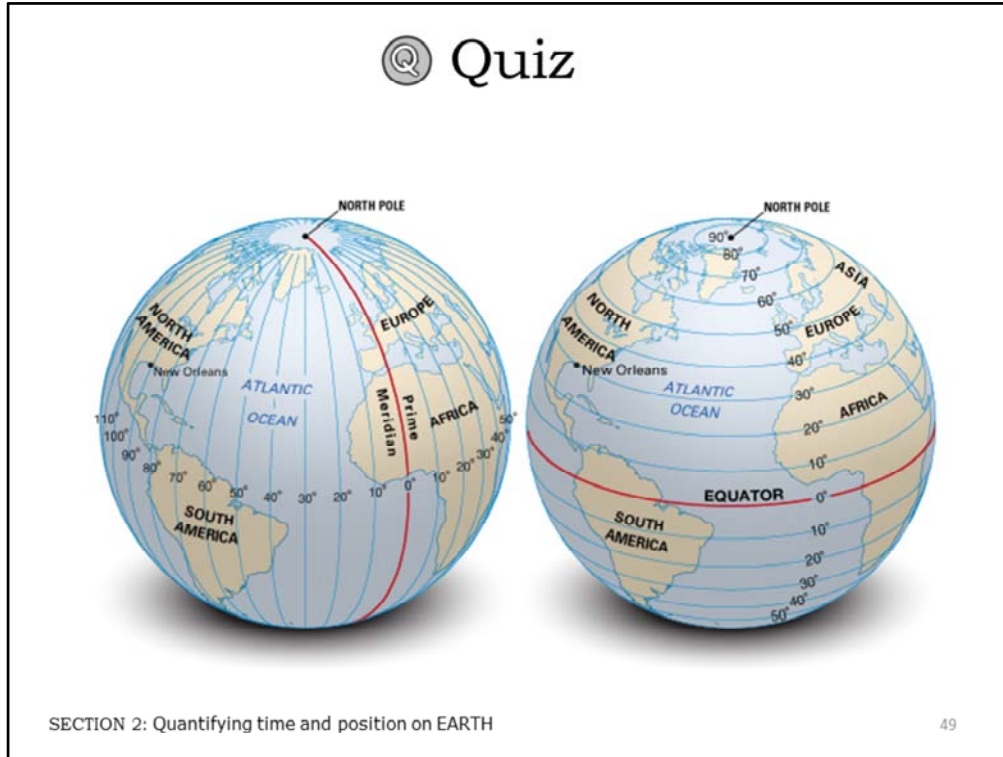
### Student Prompts:

### References:

Image on worksheet: <http://classedenini.eklablog.com/latitude-et-longitude-a85673812>

Image on worksheet:





**Dialogue:**

The images provided above is there for reference only. It is to your discretion if you'd like it present during the quiz.

The "quiz" sheet has been intentionally left blank. Quizzing is being left to your discretion so that you may emphasize material/topics that you find most important. It may be material taken from the videos, presentation, worksheets, activities, any combination of them, or something else.

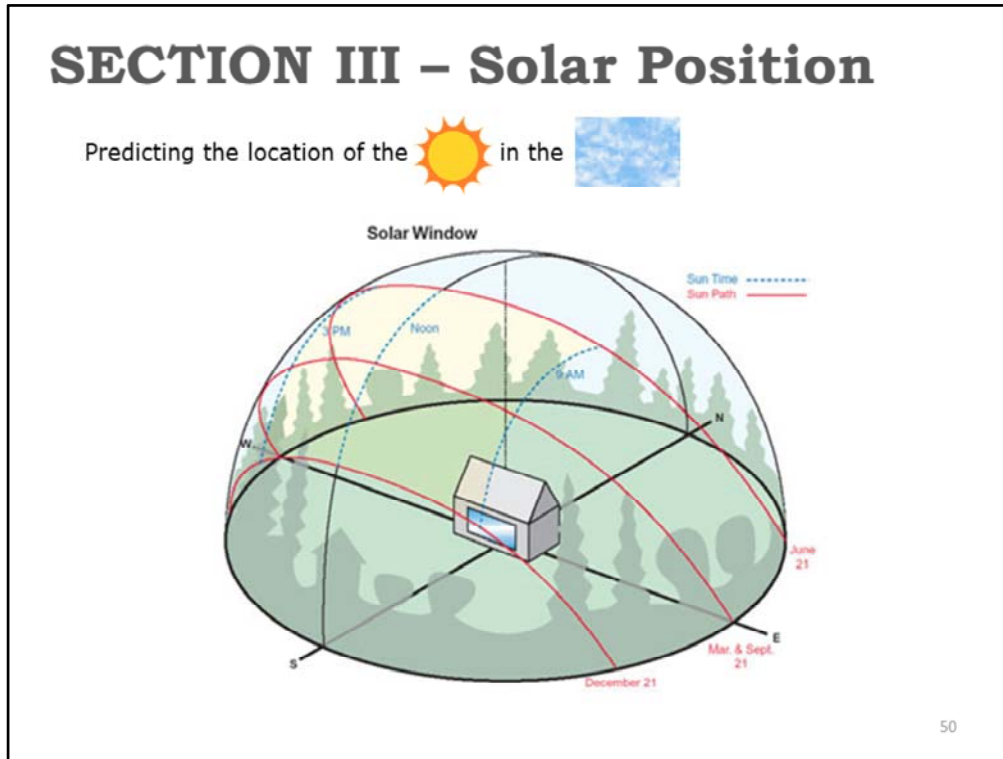
The main purpose of the "quiz" sheet is to serve as a **quiz template** that maintains the format of the other education material used in this lesson.

**Student Prompts:**

**References:**

Latitude image: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109270?topicId=331993>

Longitude image: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/109271?topicId=331993>



The **third** section of this lesson is dedicated to understanding (and using) mathematical equations to predict the location of the sun in the sky. At the end of **SECTION 3** students should understand the following:

- How to quantify solar position
- How to calculate solar position
- The difference between solar time and local time (time on your clock)
- How daylight savings time affects standard time

**Student Prompts:**

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**References:**

Sun Image: <http://www.clipartbest.com/sun-clipart-images>

Sky Image: <http://bestclipartblog.com/32-sky-clip-art.html/>

Solar Window Image: <http://www.solarfeeds.com/solar-system-design-on-the-fall-equinox/>

## A second to think...



What important factors might we have to consider when calculating the location of the sun in the sky?

SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position

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### Dialogue:

It's important as you begin this section that you disassociate the time on your watch and the location of the sun in the sky. Obviously mathematical equations link the time on our watch and the position of the sun in the sky, but it isn't always obvious.

### Student Prompts:

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### References:

Image credit:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal\\_coordinate\\_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude\\_schematic.svg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal_coordinate_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude_schematic.svg)

## Quantifying Solar Position

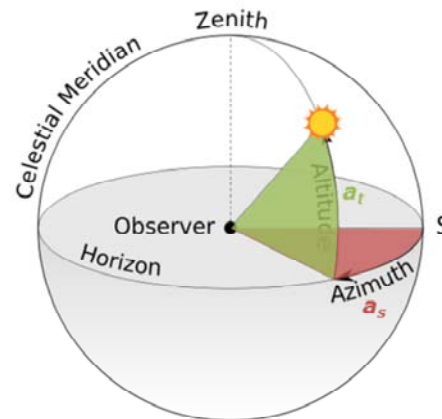
There are two basic quantities that are used for quantifying the location of the sun in the sky. They are:

Solar **Altitude** Angle:  $a_t$

is the vertical *angle* of the sun with respect to the horizon (positive above the horizon)

Solar **Azimuth** Angle:  $a_s$

is the *angle* of the sun – measured in the horizontal plane – relative to south. (west of south is positive (+))



SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position

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### Dialogue:

Be sure that students understand angles and how to measure them. A small precursor activity to this could be to allow students to measure angles using a protractor. Discuss the use of measuring an angle from a fixed reference location. The reference location for Solar Azimuth Angle ( $a_s$ ) is always measured from a line extending from the observer in the South direction. The Solar Altitude Angle ( $a_t$ ) is always measured vertically from the horizon line.

### Student Prompts:

- Describe Solar Azimuth Angle (out loud) and describe how it is measured.
- Describe Solar Altitude Angle (out loud) and describe how it is measured.

### References:

Image credit (modified):

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal\\_coordinate\\_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude\\_schematic.svg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal_coordinate_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude_schematic.svg)

## Calculating Solar Position

Before we can calculate  $a_t$  and  $a_s$ , we need to calculate **Solar Time ( $t$ )**. Because of many factors, the location of the sun in the sky is not directly related to the time that shows on your watch (which is called **local time**). By using equations that describe the complex geometry between the Earth and the sun, we can calculate the sun's location in the sky with a few steps. We need to convert **local time** (time on your watch) to **solar time** (related to the sun's position in the sky).

The **first step** is to calculate **Solar Time ( $t$ )**

This requires **3 steps** which are as follows:

1. Calculate **Standard Time ( $t_s$ )**
2. Calculate the **Equation of Time (ET)**
3. Calculate the **Longitude Correction**

SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position

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### Dialogue:

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### Student Prompts:

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### References:

Image credit:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal\\_coordinate\\_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude\\_schematic.svg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal_coordinate_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude_schematic.svg)

## Solar Time – Step 1

The first step in calculating **Solar Time ( $t$ )** is to calculate **Standard Time ( $t_s$ )**

What is daylight savings time (DST) is in effect, one hour must be subtracted from the local clock time to arrive at standard time  $t_s$ . This is because, in the United States, we change out clocks by one hour in the summer, but this only changes what our watches say. It doesn't move the sun!

Note: In the United States, Daylight Savings Time is in effect beginning the second Sunday in March and ends the first Sunday in November.

If DST is in effect:

$$t_s = t_{local}(\textit{what your watch reads}) - 1$$

(time is measured on a 24-hour clock)

SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position

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### Dialogue:

Discuss daylight savings time and why it is used. Historically it was used to extend daylight hours into the evening to save energy when incandescent lighting was the primary source of light at night.

### Student Prompts:

Q: What is Daylight Savings Time (DST)?

Q: Why is it used?

Q: Do all parts of the world use it?

### References:

Image credit:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal\\_coordinate\\_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude\\_schematic.svg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal_coordinate_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude_schematic.svg)

## Solar Time – Step 2

The second step in calculating **Solar Time (*t*)** is to calculate the **Equation of Time (ET)**. The equation of time is used to account for the Earth's elliptical orbit about the sun and the tilt of the Earth's axis relative to its plane of orbit. This equation adjusts the time between -14 minutes and +16 minutes over the year.

$$ET = 0.1644 * \sin\left(\frac{4\pi(J - 81.6)}{365.25}\right) - 0.1273 * \sin\left(\frac{2\pi(J - 2.5)}{365.25}\right)$$

*J = Julian day (between 1 and 365)*

SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position

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### Dialogue:

This calculation will require the use of a calculator and an understanding of how to use the Sine function. It is to the teachers discretion to decide how complex to delve into the topic of the Equation of Time (ET). It requires a thorough understanding of the geometric relationship between the Earth and the Sun. You may dive deeply into this topic or present it as a step in the calculation procedure.

### Student Prompts:

Q: What does the 365.25 in the denominator represent?

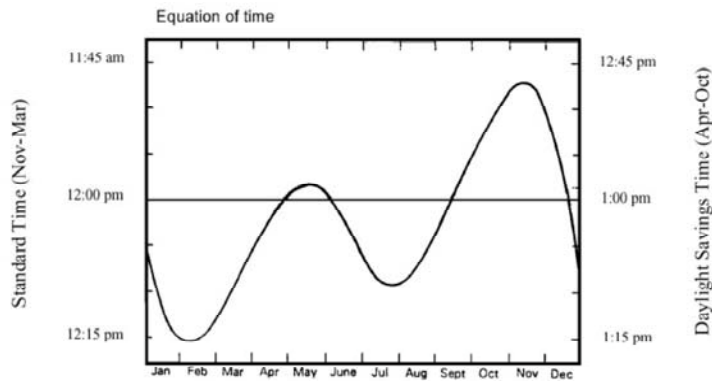
A: The number of days that it takes the Earth to make 1 full rotation around the sun, which is not 365 as commonly thought. It is why we have a leap day every 4 years ( $0.25 * 4 = 1$  extra day)

### References:

<http://www.umass.edu/sunwheel/images/Image8.jpg>

## Solar Time – Step 2 (cont'd)

A graph of the Equation of Time is shown below for reference. More accurate results will come from using the equations directly and not dulling numbers from this graph.



SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position

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### Dialogue:

This calculation will require the use of a calculator and an understanding of how to use the Sine function. It is to the teachers discretion to decide how complex to delve into the topic of the Equation of Time (ET). It requires a thorough understanding of the geometric relationship between the Earth and the Sun. You may dive deeply into this topic or present it as a step in the calculation procedure.

### Student Prompts:

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### References:

<http://www.umass.edu/sunwheel/images/Image8.jpg>



## Solar Time – Step 3

The third step in calculating **Solar Time ( $t$ )** is to calculate the **Longitude Correction**. The longitude correction accounts for your observers longitude relative to a time zones standard meridian (its center longitude). Time zones are nominally 15° wide, therefore solar noon at the east and west boundaries of a time zone occur approximately one-half hour earlier and one-half hour later than at the standard meridian.

$$\text{longitude correction} = \frac{12 * (SM - L)}{\pi}$$

SM = Standard meridian for the time zone (in radians)

L = Longitude of observer (in radians)

Note that the correction is calculated based on your longitude *relative* to your time zones meridian. When you are located *exactly* on the standard meridian for a time zone (SM = L), then the longitude correction is 0!

SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position

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### Dialogue:

Emphasize that the longitude correction is calculated based on your location *relative* to the standard meridian for your time zone.

### Student Prompts:

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### References:

Image credit:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal\\_coordinate\\_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude\\_schematic.svg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal_coordinate_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude_schematic.svg)

## Solar Time

Now that you have completed all 3 steps, you can calculate **Solar Time ( $t$ )**.

$$t = t_s + ET + \textit{longitude correction}$$

$$t = t_s + ET + \frac{12 * (SM - L)}{\pi} \text{ (radians)}$$

$$t = t_s + ET + \frac{12 * (SM - L)}{180} \text{ (degrees)}$$

$t$  = solar time in decimal hours

$t_s$  = standard time in decimal hours

ET = time from equation of time in decimal hours

SM = standard meridian for the time zone

L = site longitude

SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position

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### Dialogue:

A calculation of solar time compares

### Student Prompts:

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### References:

Image credit:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal\\_coordinate\\_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude\\_schematic.svg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal_coordinate_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude_schematic.svg)

## Understanding Solar Time

Now that we have the equations for calculating solar time, let's try a bit to understand what it means and how it relates to our watches.

**Solar Noon** occurs half way through the day, when the sun is the highest in the sky for the day. After solar noon the sun begins to set. This always occurs when the sun falls exactly south in the sky. Put another way, imagine you are standing outside, facing exactly south. The sun will be the highest in the sky when it aligns with your line of sight.

Now, when this happens, what will your watch say? Well, if you are not experiencing daylight savings time ( $t_s = t_{\text{local}}$ ,  $(ET = 0)$ , and you are standing on the standard meridian for your time zone ( $SM = L$ ), then your clock will read 12pm! If one of these conditions is not true, then your clock will not read 12pm when the sun is highest in the sky (solar noon). For example, if you are experiencing daylight savings time, the difference will be at least an hour, because we change our clocks by 1 hour during DST.

SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position

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### Dialogue:

Emphasize that the longitude correction is calculated based on your location *relative* to the standard meridian for your time zone.

### Student Prompts:

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### References:

Image credit:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal\\_coordinate\\_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude\\_schematic.svg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal_coordinate_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude_schematic.svg)

## Solar Declination

Once we have calculated our Solar Time, we need to calculate the solar declination (the angle between plane of Earth's equator and the rays of the sun. This value ranges from the +23.5° (Summer solstice) to -23.5° (Winter Solstice). The solar declination is equal to 0 during both Equinox's.

$$\delta = 0.4093 * \sin\left(\frac{2\pi(J - 81)}{368}\right)$$

$\delta$  = solar declination in radians  
 $J$  = Julian day

SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position

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### Dialogue:

This calculation will require the use of a calculator and an understanding of how to use the Sine function. It is to the teachers discretion to decide how complex to delve into the topic of solar declination. It requires a thorough understanding of the geometric relationship between the Earth and the Sun. You may dive deeply into this topic or present it as a step in the calculation procedure.

### Student Prompts:

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### References:

Image credit:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal\\_coordinate\\_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude\\_schematic.svg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal_coordinate_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude_schematic.svg)

## Solar Angles – $a_t$ and $a_s$

We now have all of the pieces we need to calculate the sun's position in the sky at any given time! The equations are as follows:

$$a_t = \sin^{-1} \left( \sin(l) \sin(\delta) - \cos(l) \cos(\delta) \cos\left(\frac{\pi t}{12}\right) \right)$$

$$a_s = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{-\cos(\delta) \sin\left(\frac{\pi t}{12}\right)}{-\left(\cos(l) \sin(\delta) + \sin(l) \cos(\delta) \cos\left(\frac{\pi t}{12}\right)\right)} \right)$$

$\delta$  = solar declination in radians  
 $l$  = observer latitude in radians  
 $t$  = solar time in decimal hours

SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position

61

### Dialogue:

This calculation will require the use of a calculator and an understanding of how to use the Sine function. It is to the teacher's discretion to decide how complex to delve into the topic of solar declination. It requires a thorough understanding of the geometric relationship between the Earth and the Sun. You may dive deeply into this topic or present it as a step in the calculation procedure.

### Student Prompts:

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### References:

Image credit:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal\\_coordinate\\_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude\\_schematic.svg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal_coordinate_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude_schematic.svg)

## Key Terms

- Solar Altitude
- Solar Azimuth
- Daylight Savings Time
- Local Time
- Standard Time
- Equation of Time
- Longitude Correction
- Solar Declination

SECTION 2: Quantifying time and position on EARTH 62

**Dialogue:**

Presented here are the key terms that students should familiarize themselves with. It is to your discretion how you'd like to present these definitions to the students. I've included it at the end anticipating that it might be best to assign a technical definition to these words after they've been presented in the videos, discussed with the class, and worked into normal vocabulary.

**Student Prompts:**

Technical Definitions

**References:**

No references for this slide.

## Key Terms (defined)

<b>Solar Altitude</b> ( $a_t$ )	is the <i>vertical angle</i> of the sun with respect to the horizon (positive above the horizon)
<b>Solar Azimuth</b> ( $a_s$ )	is the <i>angle</i> of the sun – measured in the horizontal plane – relative to south. (west of south is positive (+))
<b>Daylight Savings Time</b> (DST)	is the practice of advancing clocks during summer months by one hour so that evening daylight lasts an hour longer. Historically, this was to extend the amount of sunlight in the evening to save energy when incandescent lighting was much more prominent. Typically, regions who practice DST adjust clocks forward one hour close to the start of spring and adjust them backward in the autumn to standard time. People use the terms "spring forward" and "fall back" when referring to this.
<b>Local time</b>	The time on your clocks and watches

SECTION 2: Quantifying time and position on EARTH

63

### Dialogue:

Presented here are the key terms that students should familiarize themselves with. It is to your discretion how you'd like to present these definitions to the students. I've included it at the end anticipating that it might be best to assign a technical definition to these words after they've been presented in the videos, discussed with the class, and worked into normal vocabulary.

### Student Prompts:

Technical Definitions

### References:

Modified Wikipedia entries were used in definition of terms.

## Key Terms (defined)

<b>Standard time</b>	A time adjusted to compensate for the 1 hour discrepancy between solar time and local time when daylight savings time is in effect.
<b>Equation of Time</b>	describes the discrepancy between two kinds of solar time. The two times that differ are the apparent solar time, which directly tracks the motion of the sun, and mean solar time, which tracks a theoretical "mean" sun with noon's 24 hours apart. Because noon's on early are not exactly 24 hours apart, we need a correction.
<b>Longitude correction</b>	accounts for your longitude relative to your time zones standard meridian (its center longitude). Time zones are nominally 15° wide, therefore solar noon at the east and west boundaries of a time zone occur approximately one-half hour earlier and one-half hour later than at the standard meridian
<b>Solar declination</b>	the angle between plane of Earth's equator and the rays of the sun. This value ranges from the +23.5° (Summer solstice) to -23.5° (Winter Solstice). The solar declination is equal to 0 during both Equinox's.

SECTION 2: Quantifying time and position on EARTH

64

### Dialogue:

Presented here are the key terms that students should familiarize themselves with. It is to your discretion how you'd like to present these definitions to the students. I've included it at the end anticipating that it might be best to assign a technical definition to these words after they've been presented in the videos, discussed with the class, and worked into normal vocabulary.


### Student Prompts:

Technical Definitions

### References:

Modified Wikipedia entries were used in definition of terms.



 **Worksheet**

For this worksheet we will calculate the solar altitude and solar azimuth for the sun at a given time.

See worksheet.

Pick a day that is about a week after this activity is assignment to allow for preparation of the activity.

SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position 65

**Dialogue:**

In this activity students will demonstrate their understanding of longitude and latitude by finding geographical coordinates for specified places, and drawing their location on a diagram indicating the appropriate coordinates.

Note that longitude and latitude can be expressed as fractional degrees or in terms of “minutes” and “seconds.” For simplicity, I recommend sticking with fractional degrees as this is the easiest format to understand and understanding the conversion from “minutes” and “seconds” to fractional degrees is of little important for this lesson.


For added problems, utilize the following video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcfqKiEmleQ>

**Student Prompts:**

**References:**

Image on worksheet: <http://classedenini.eklablog.com/latitude-et-longitude-a85673812>

 **Activity**

For this activity you will use the solar altitude angle and the solar azimuth angle to calculate the shadow of an object outside!



SECTION 3: Calculating Solar Position 66

**Dialogue:**

In this activity students will demonstrate their understanding of longitude and latitude by finding geographical coordinates for specified places, and drawing their location on a diagram indicating the appropriate coordinates.

Note that longitude and latitude can be expressed as fractional degrees or in terms of “minutes” and “seconds.” For simplicity, I recommend sticking with fractional degrees as this is the easiest format to understand and understanding the conversion from “minutes” and “seconds” to fractional degrees is of little important for this lesson.

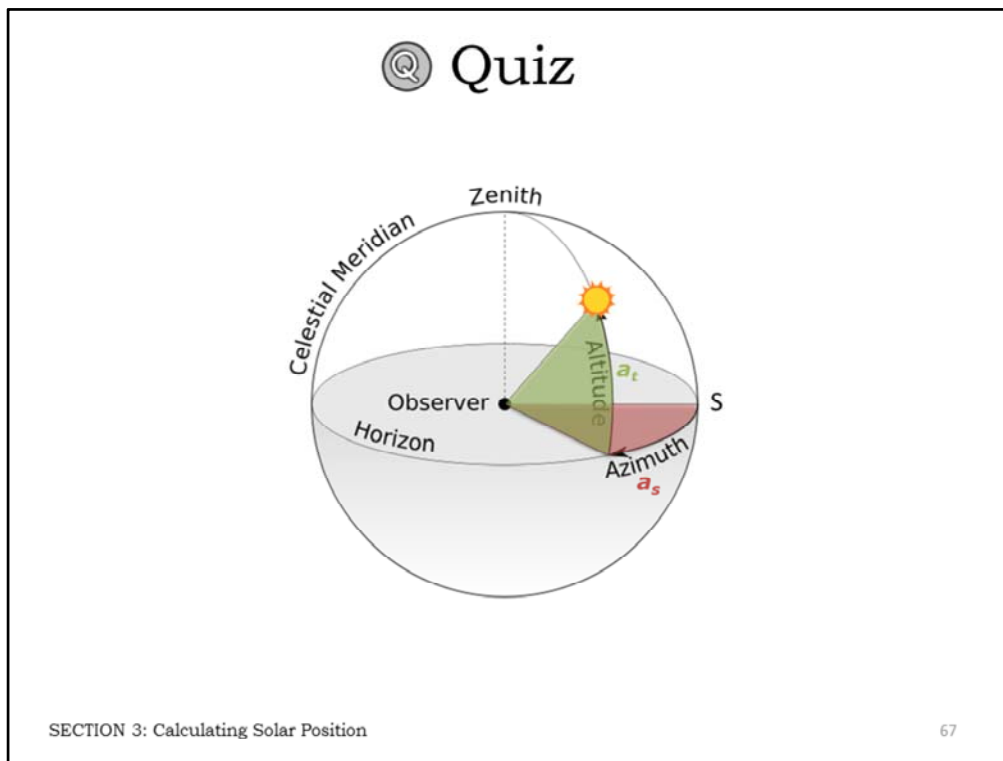
For added problems, utilize the following video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcfqKiEmlEQ>

**Student Prompts:**

**References:**

Image: <http://astroedu.iau.org/media/activities/attach/09a3cb64-c6c3-49ac-9952-07b3f7c11958/astroedu1503-shadow.jpg>

**Dialogue:**

The images provided above is there for reference only. It is to your discretion if you'd like it present during the quiz.

The "quiz" sheet has been intentionally left blank. Quizzing is being left to your discretion so that you may emphasize material/topics that you find most important. It may be material taken from the videos, presentation, worksheets, activities, any combination of them, or something else.

The main purpose of the "quiz" sheet is to serve as a **quiz template** that maintains the format of the other education material used in this lesson.

**Student Prompts:****References:**

Image credit (modified):

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal\\_coordinate\\_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude\\_schematic.svg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horizontal_coordinate_system#mediaviewer/File:Azimuth-Altitude_schematic.svg)

# Stellarium

<http://www.stellarium.org/>



sdgsdgsdgsdgs

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**Dialogue:**

An extra resource

**Student Prompts:**

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**References:**

<http://www.stellarium.org/>