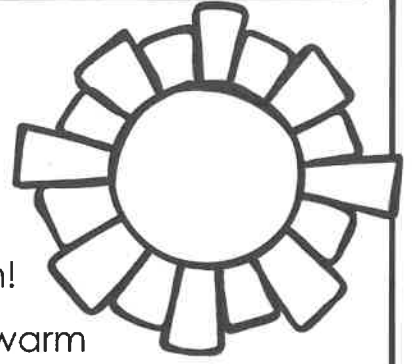


Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Summer is Here!



If you love warm weather, swimming in a pool, and playing outside after dinner, then summer may be your favorite season! Summer is the hottest time of the year. The temperatures stay warm even at night. During summer, trees have green leaves, flowers are blooming, and fruit trees are ready to be picked.

The first day of summer is called the summer solstice. This is the longest day of the year because it has the most hours of daylight. There are about 14-15 hours of daylight on the summer solstice, leaving 9-10 hours of nighttime. A solstice happens because of the **rotation** that Earth makes while tilted on its axis as it orbits the sun. On the summer solstice, the Northern Hemisphere is tilted towards the sun, giving it the longest day of the year. In the Southern Hemisphere, it is winter, and they have their shortest day of the year. The Northern Hemisphere's summer solstice is around June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Since summer weather is hot and **humid**, it's important to stay **hydrated**. Our bodies are about 60% water. On hot days, we lose a lot of fluids through sweat, even if we're just sitting in the sun. Staying hydrated keeps our bodies working well. If you are dehydrated, you may feel dizzy, tired, or have trouble breathing. These signs mean you need to drink water! When you feel thirsty, your body is telling you it needs water. To stay hydrated, carry a refillable water bottle and fill it up when it's empty. Add ice to keep the water cold. Doctors say you can drink milk to stay hydrated. Don't drink sugary drinks like soda and juice because they do not hydrate you. Eating water-based fruits, like berries and watermelon, also helps you stay hydrated.

## Glossary

humid – damp, wet air that feels hot when temperatures are high

hydrated – to drink a lot of water to add water back to your body

rotation – to move around in a cyclical manner

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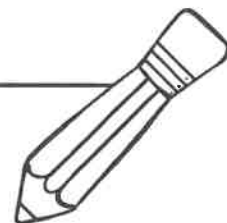
# Time To Reflect



Directions: Read the passage two times. After you read the passage the second time, mark the text by following the directions below. Check off each box as you complete the task.

- ☐ Highlight a sentence that you found interesting about the summer solstice.
- ☐ Highlight a sentence that tells about something that takes place during summer.
- ☐ Highlight a sentence that tells why we should avoid sugary drinks.

Directions: Read the passage two times. After you read the passage the second time, respond to the questions below using complete and detailed sentences.



Is summer your favorite season? Why or why not? Explain.

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Why is it important to stay hydrated during the summer? Explain.

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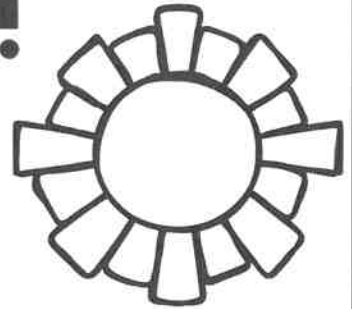
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Summer is Here!

**Directions:** Complete the Main Idea organizer about the passage Summer is Here. Be sure to include a main idea statement from the article and three supporting details. Respond to the question below.



Passage Title: \_\_\_\_\_

## Main Idea

### Supporting Detail

### Supporting Detail

### Supporting Detail

What is the author's purpose for this passage? What does the author want you to learn? Explain.

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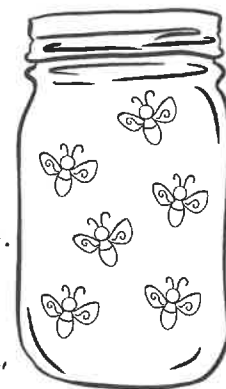
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Catching Fireflies

Have you been outside on a summer evening and saw flashing lights in the night sky? The blinking lights are from fireflies. There are over 2,000 species of fireflies. About 150 species live in the United States and Canada.

Fireflies, also called lightning bugs and glow worms, are not flies. They are beetles. Fireflies have six legs and three main body parts: head, thorax, and **abdomen**. They have special organs under their abdomen that create the light you see. This light glows at the end of their abdomen. The light they make does not make heat. Fireflies use their glow to talk with each other and find other fireflies of the same species. Their glow also helps keep them safe from predators because it warns toads and birds that their blood is **toxic**. Each firefly species has its own blinking pattern. Sometimes, groups of fireflies blink together at the same time. Scientists are studying how fireflies turn their lights on and off.



Scientists want to protect fireflies. There are less fireflies each summer because of **pesticide** use and light pollution. Light pollution is when there is too much light against the dark sky. Since fireflies like dark skies, too much light can stop them from living in an area. When it is too bright at night, fireflies cannot use their blinking lights to find each other.

Fireflies go through a four-stage life cycle. All fireflies hatch from eggs. Adult female fireflies lay about 100 eggs in the summer months. Their eggs glow and are buried in moist dirt. After three weeks, the eggs hatch into larvae. Larvae look like worms, do not have wings. They live underground to survive the winter. They eat snails, slugs, and worms. Even as larvae, they can glow. In spring, the larvae enter the pupa stage, turning into winged, glowing adult fireflies. They often make a mud home in the soil. Adult fireflies live for three weeks.

Adult fireflies are delicate and live short lives. While you may want to catch fireflies in a jar to watch them, be sure to let them go quickly so they can live and lay eggs.

## Glossary

abdomen – the back of an insect with its stomach and other organs

pesticides – a chemical used to kill unwanted pests

toxic – a poisonous material that can hurt or kill living things

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

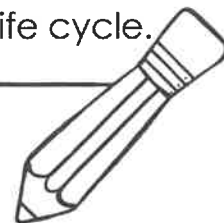
# Time To Reflect



Directions: Read the passage two times. After you read the passage the second time, mark the text by following the directions below. Check off each box as you complete the task.

- ☐ Highlight a sentence that tells how many species of fireflies there are.
- ☐ Highlight a sentence that tells how a firefly's blinking light keeps them safe.
- ☐ Highlight a sentence that you found interesting about the firefly's life cycle.

Directions: Read the passage two times. After you read the passage the second time, respond to the questions below using complete and detailed sentences.



Do you agree that fireflies are unique creatures? Why or why not? Explain.

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Have you ever seen a firefly? Tell about how you caught it. If not, how do you think you can catch a firefly?

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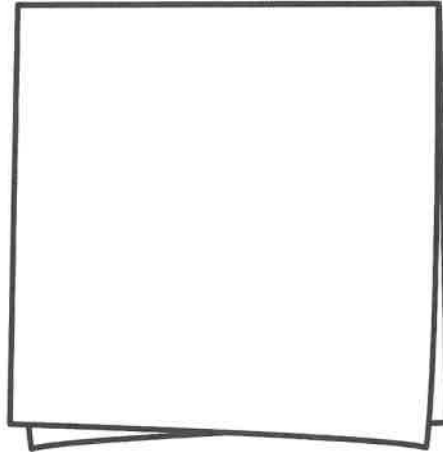
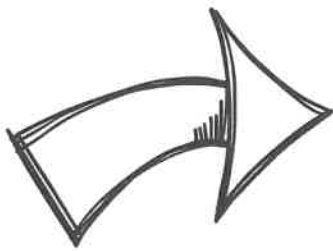
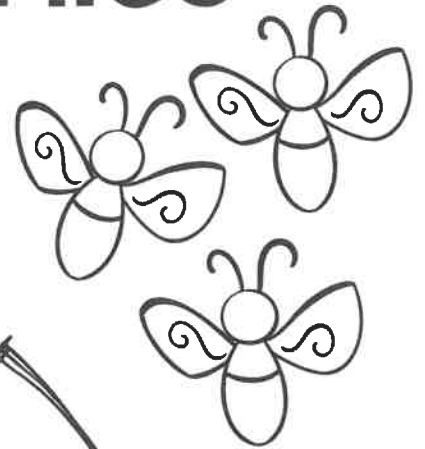
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Catching Fireflies

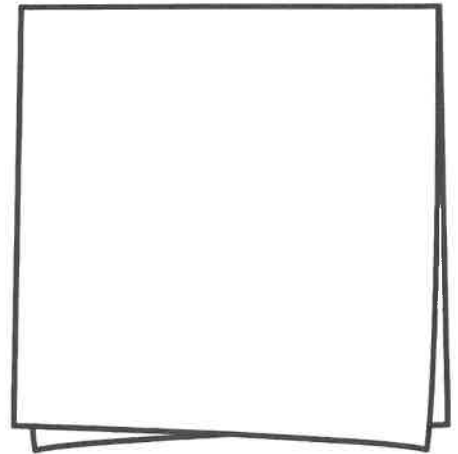
**Directions:** Think about each of the four parts of the life cycle of a firefly. Create illustrations based on the reading and write about each of your pictures below.



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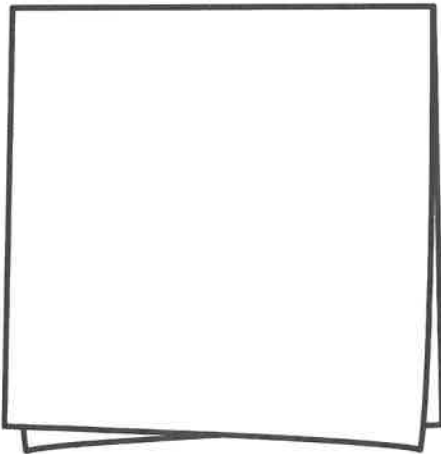
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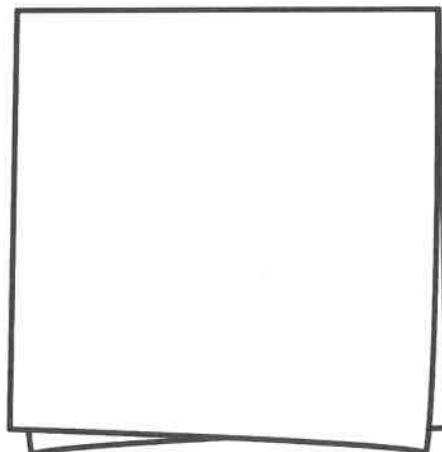
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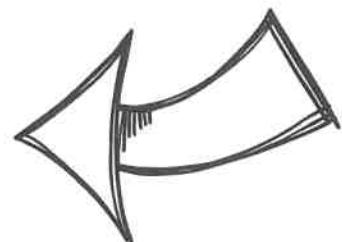
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Life Cycle of a Sunflower

Many people love to grow sunflowers and visit sunflower farms in the summer. These big flowers **symbolize** happiness, good luck, and loyalty. Sunflowers can be found all over the world.

Sunflowers are annual plants, which means they bloom for one season. They have large flower heads that can grow to be 12 inches wide. They have a tall, hairy stem that can reach 10 feet high. Sunflower leaves can grow to be 12 inches long. People sometimes call sunflowers "happy flowers" because of their bright colors that **mimic** the sun. Sunflowers can turn their flower head from east to west to follow the sun.

Sunflowers are useful. People use seeds and oil from these plants. People eat roasted sunflower seeds as a snack and add them to salads. Sunflower oil is used for cooking and baking. Sunflower butter is made from sunflower seeds. It has the same **consistency** as peanut butter. Sunflower seeds are also used to feed farm animals.

There are 52 species of sunflowers. The center of sunflowers can be brown, yellow, or purple. Some sunflowers have red and orange petals, and others are bright yellow.

The life cycle of a sunflower has many stages. First, you plant the seeds. Sunflower seeds are usually black with white stripes. After three days, the seed begins to grow. Roots grow downward, and a shoot grows upward. About a week later, a shoot appears above the soil, and leaves start to grow. The stem grows tall and thick. Buds appear and unfold into petals. The plant becomes an adult when the flower fully blooms. The center of adult sunflowers is made up of small flowers packed together, called disc flowers. When the flower begins to wilt and die, it releases seeds. The seeds fall to the soil, starting the cycle over. Most sunflowers bloom in summer and keep blooming until the first frost.

Sunflowers are easy to grow. They love sunlight. If you plant sunflowers, make sure you choose a sunny spot so your sunflowers can grow tall! Grab your binoculars, too, because these plants attract honeybees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.



## Glossary

consistency – how firm or sticky something feels

mimic – when one living thing copies or acts like a different living thing

symbolize – when an object stands for something

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

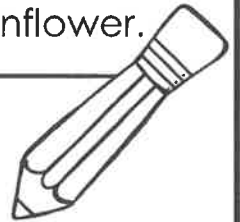
# Time To Reflect



Directions: Read the passage two times. After you read the passage the second time, mark the text by following the directions below. Check off each box as you complete the task.

- ☐ Highlight a sentence that tells how sunflowers are helpful plants.
- ☐ Highlight a sentence that tells where sunflowers grow.
- ☐ Highlight a sentence that tells one step of the life cycle of a sunflower.

Directions: Read the passage two times. After you read the passage the second time, respond to the questions below using complete and detailed sentences.



What tips could you give someone who wants to grow sunflowers? Use information from the passage to support your ideas.

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Would you or would you not want to grow sunflowers? Why or why not? Explain.

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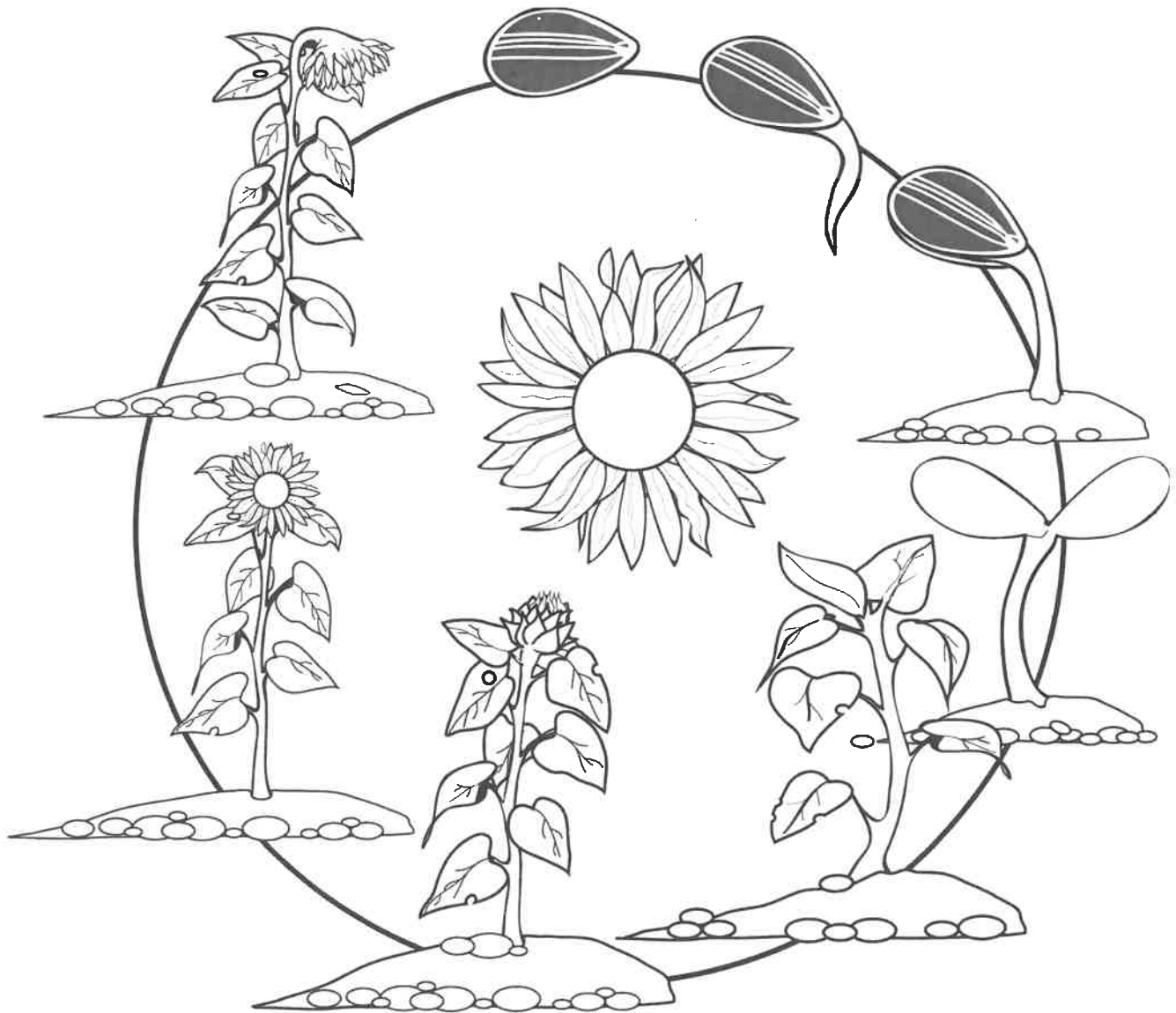
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Life Cycle of a Sunflower

**Directions:** Think about each stage of the life cycle of a sunflower. Tell what happens at each stage.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Summer Word Search

F	Z	R	M	E	T	N	D	T	S	Y	L	U	J	F
Z	I	Y	E	S	N	E	B	Y	E	U	I	I	H	P
Q	R	R	U	W	T	U	R	B	I	K	N	A	I	A
G	C	G	E	A	O	S	J	O	O	S	P	N	V	Y
Q	U	Y	R	F	O	L	C	K	T	P	M	O	Y	L
A	J	D	P	W	L	O	F	N	I	A	L	R	R	U
T	Y	G	D	S	Q	I	A	N	B	W	T	B	B	J
H	A	L	I	E	A	L	E	D	U	P	D	I	R	G
C	Z	O	M	A	P	S	O	S	R	S	Q	T	O	A
S	W	W	U	S	S	M	E	S	E	E	D	S	L	N
W	F	X	H	O	E	R	E	M	M	U	S	C	K	R
M	P	B	U	N	O	Z	N	Y	I	B	V	I	Z	G
J	Y	U	M	S	U	N	L	I	G	H	T	M	L	P
O	K	T	C	I	X	O	T	I	R	C	W	I	B	N
S	O	L	S	T	I	C	E	B	I	D	H	M	J	K



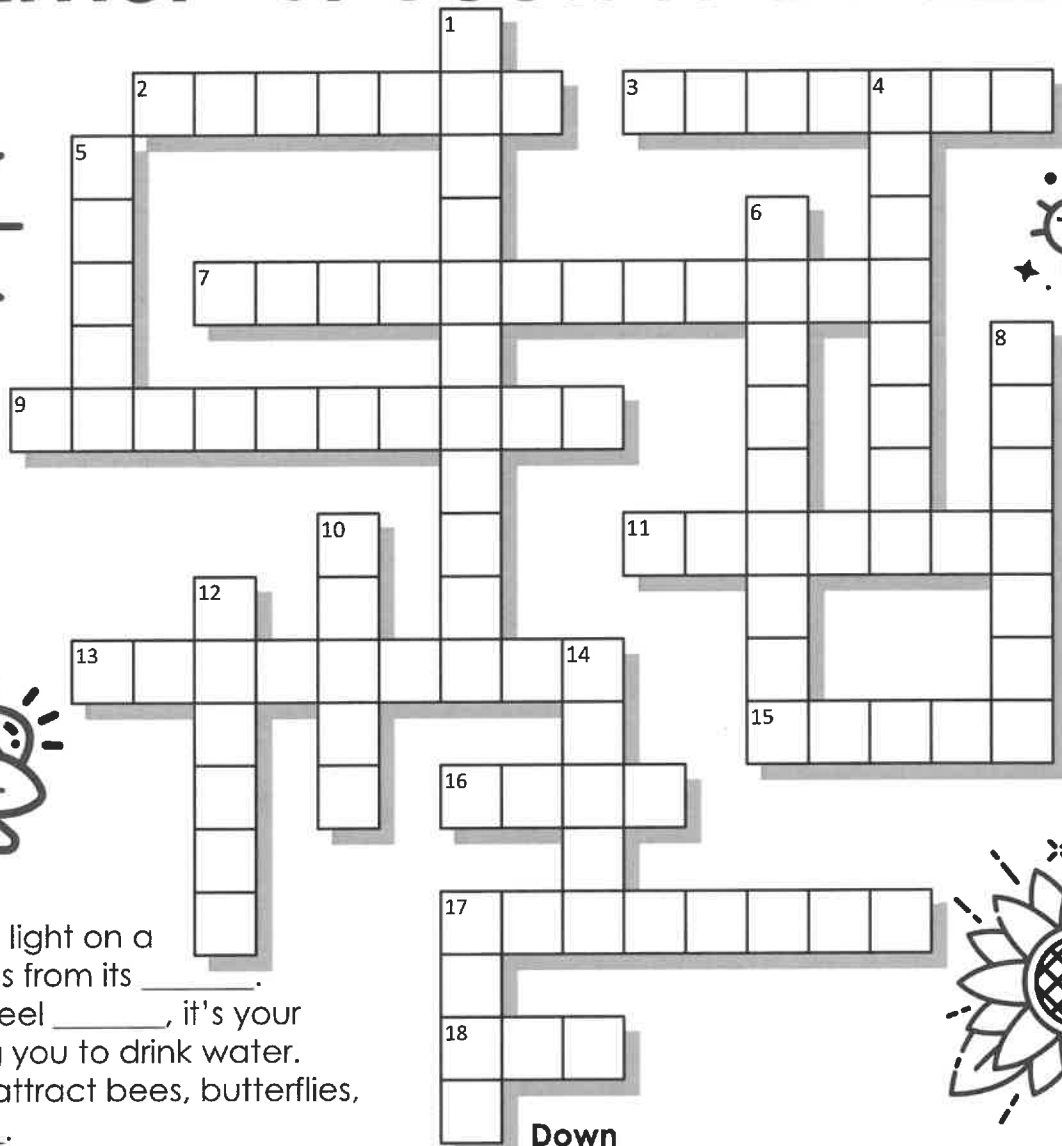
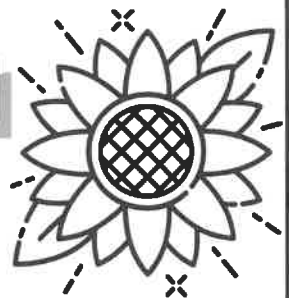
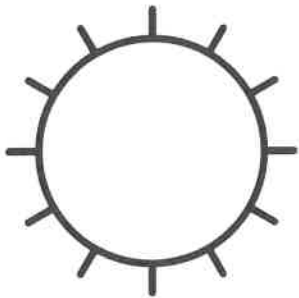
- ☐ summer
- ☐ June
- ☐ July
- ☐ August
- ☐ solstice
- ☐ rotation
- ☐ orbit

- ☐ humid
- ☐ hydrated
- ☐ sunlight
- ☐ fireflies
- ☐ glow
- ☐ abdomen
- ☐ toxic

- ☐ sunflower
- ☐ mimic
- ☐ plants
- ☐ seeds
- ☐ sunny
- ☐ season
- ☐ happiness

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Summer Crossword Puzzle



## Across

2. The blinking light on a
3. firefly comes from its \_\_\_\_\_.
3. When you feel \_\_\_\_\_, it's your body telling you to drink water.
7. Sunflowers attract bees, butterflies, and \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Eating fruits like berries and \_\_\_\_\_ helps keep you hydrated.
11. Summer is the \_\_\_\_\_ time of the year.
13. The Northern Hemisphere's summer solstice is around June \_\_\_\_\_. Earth is tilted on its \_\_\_\_\_ as it orbits the sun.
15. You lose fluids through \_\_\_\_\_ on hot days.
16. Earth is tilted on its \_\_\_\_\_ as it orbits the sun.
17. The summer solstice has the most hours of \_\_\_\_\_.
18. Sunflowers can turn their heads to follow the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Down

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ water bottle helps you stay hydrated in summer.
4. The first day of summer is called the summer \_\_\_\_\_.
5. A baby firefly is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Fireflies use their glow to warn \_\_\_\_\_ not to eat them.
8. Scientists want to \_\_\_\_\_ fireflies because there are fewer each year.
10. Our bodies are about 60% \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Fireflies are actually a type of \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Sunflowers have a tall, \_\_\_\_\_ stem.
17. The tiny flowers packed in the center of a sunflower are called \_\_\_\_\_ flowers.