



Grades 2-7

Wonderful Winter

Unit Study



A Journey Through Learning
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Authors: Paula Winget and Nancy Fileccia
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Thank you for purchasing from **A Journey Through Learning**. We hope that you enjoy our unit study entitled **Winter**. Getting started is easy.

First, take the time to just browse through the pages to familiarize yourself with the layout. In this book, you will find many topics.

Each topic has a(an):

- * information page
- *correlating activity pages
- *vocabulary words

Information Page

Each of the topics has an information page to read to your child.

Activity Page

After the information page has been read, it is time to do the activity that is found right after the information page. Some of these activities are more for fun while others are more challenging. All of them will enrich your child's understanding and knowledge of each topic.

Vocabulary Study

The underlined words are vocabulary words. Read each sentence that contains the vocabulary word very carefully. It is important that your child hear the vocabulary words in context. Ask your child if he/she can get the meaning of the word from listening to the sentence it is contained in. Next, turn to the vocabulary pages in the back of the book. Use a dictionary to find the meaning of the word and write it on the lines provided. Vocabulary study increases your child's knowledge of the topic!

Recipes: We have also included several fun and easy recipes for you and your child to make together.

How Long Does it Take to Complete A Unit Study?

Doing a study guide page and an activity sheet a day, it should take about one month to complete. However, you can expand the study portion and make it last as long as you like! That's the beauty of homeschooling! Do it YOUR way!

Study Choices

Choice #1- Read the first page of the study guide. Then use the internet and fun children's books to learn more about the topic that is covered in that study guide. For instance-our American Indians Unit Study has a study guide page about Geronimo. Dig into Geronimo. There are probably lots of interesting things to learn about him that the study guide does not cover. Spend a day on Geronimo or spend a week! When your child has completed studying that particular topic, it will be time to do the activity sheet for that topic. The activity sheets are found right after the study guide page that it goes with.

Choice #2- Read only the study guide page and do the activity sheet that goes with it. The activity sheets are found right after the study guide page that it goes with. You may choose to do one study guide/activity sheet per day, two per day, two per week, three per week, etc. It doesn't matter. The pace is completely up to you. At one per day, it will take about a month to complete this unit study.

Tips and tricks to go the extra mile!

Supplies Need:

½ inch three-ring binder

8 tabs (if you are using our copywork and/or notebooking pages, you will need to have 10 tabs. Label with copywork and notebooking)

Your study guide and activity sheet pages

1. Label your tabs: Study Guide, Activity Sheets, Book Log, NICK, Biography Reports, Outlines, and Narration pages (Copywork and Notebooking, if using these).
2. Make copies of NICK notes and outline forms and narration forms, put them behind the tabs. Your child can use either the NICK notes form (easier) or the outline form (a bit harder) after any of the study guides. The narration forms also come in two levels. Choose the correct level for your child. These serve as a good way for your child to show what they have learned.
3. Hole punch your study guide and activity sheets and place behind the correct tab. You will read a page of a study guide. Behind the study guide are all of the activities that go with that study guide.

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Holidays Celebrated During Winter

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What Kind of Precipitation Do We See in the Winter?

What if I Get Caught in a Winter Storm?

Books I've Read about Winter

Winter Fun Cooking

The Winter Olympics

My Winter Favorites

What I Love about Winter

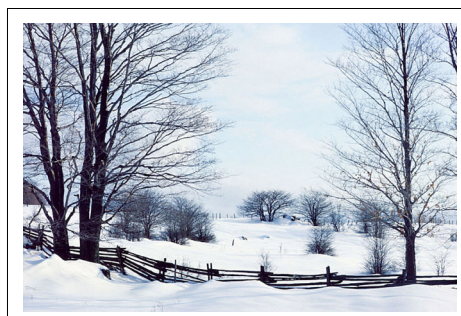


What is Winter?

It is so amazing the way God created this beautiful place we call our world. With each changing of the seasons, He proves over and over what an awesome creator He is. No two days, months, years, or even centuries are ever the same. If we take the time to look around us, we too, can enjoy the wonders. One of the greatest gifts God gave us was the wonder that comes with each season. The “coolest” of them all has to be winter.

Winter is one of the four seasons. It is the season with shortest daylight hours and the coldest of temperatures. All children have a love/hate relationship with “old man winter.” With winter comes earlier night fall, forcing the end of fun evening playtime. However, it also opens up a season for snowboarding, ice-skating and making snow angels. The first signs of winter begin on the solstice and ends on the equinox. January, February and March are the months of winter.

The coldest month is typically January. During winter, we experience many beautiful examples of God's wonders. Snow, snowflakes, ice and frozen lakes are remarkable sights. Frosty mornings, scraping ice off cars and children bundled up point the way to the wonderful season we call winter.



Read the study guide **What is Winter?** Answer the following questions

Place each of the four seasons in one of the spaces

A 2x2 grid with a vertical line on the left and a horizontal line across the middle, creating four empty rectangular boxes for classification.

Sample Page

See how many words you can list to describe winter.

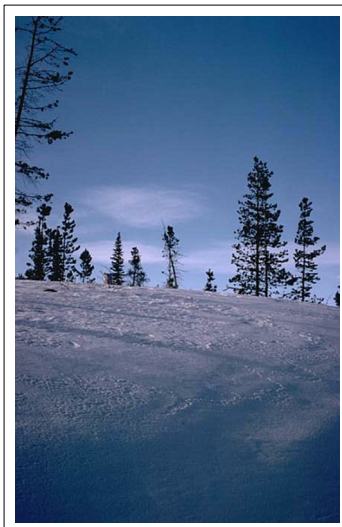
A large, empty octagonal shape intended for students to list words describing winter.

What is the Winter Solstice?

The Winter Solstice marks the shortest day of the year. The word Solstice is Latin. It is made up of the two words sol(sun) and sistere (to stand still). So the words meaning is "when the sun stands still in the winter." It usually occurs around the middle of December. At that point, the days will begin to grow longer again.

The earth tilts slightly on its axis and revolves around the sun. For half of the time the Earth's Northern Hemisphere is directed toward the sun. And for the latter half of the orbit it is tilted away from the sun. When the sun is tilting toward the sun, the sun will shine longer make the days seem longer. This is when those who live in the Northern Hemisphere experience summer.

We experience winter and shorter days when the tilt is away from the sun. Winter Solstice occurs when the sun reaches the southern-most point in relation to the earth. Depending on the shift of the calendar, the event of the winter solstice occurs somewhere between December 20 and December 23 each year in the northern hemisphere.

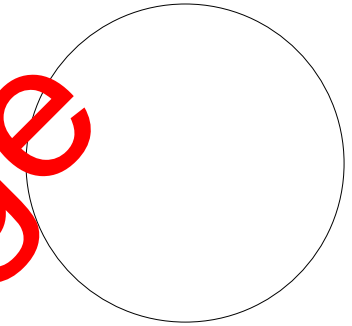


Read the study guide **What is the Winter Solstice?** Answer the following questions

When does the winter solstice begin? _____

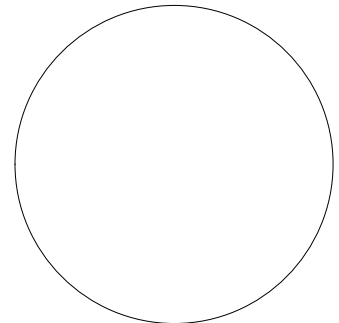
What happens when the Earth's tilt is away from the sun?

Draw a diagram of it on the circle



What happens when the Earth's tilt is close to the sun?

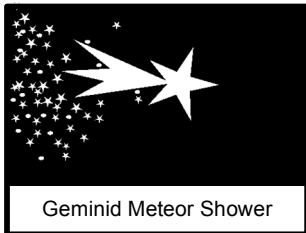
Draw a diagram of it on the circle



Sample Page

Dates to Mark on Your Calendar

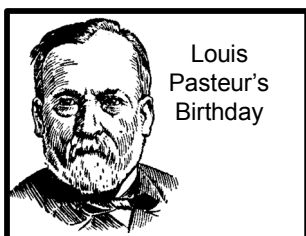
Cut out the squares and glue onto a calendar to mark these winter dates!



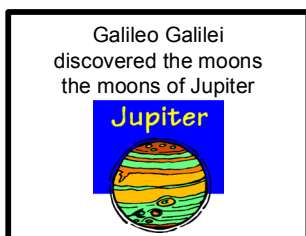
December 7 - 15 is a good time to look for shooting stars from the Geminid meteor shower, with December 13 probably being the best night to observe.



On or about December 22 is the winter solstice, the first day of winter and the shortest day of the year.



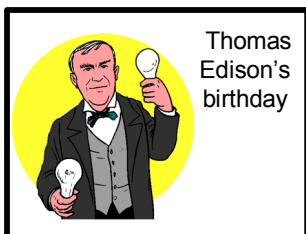
December 27, 1822, is the birth date of Louis Pasteur, the French chemist who discovered that many diseases are caused by germs.



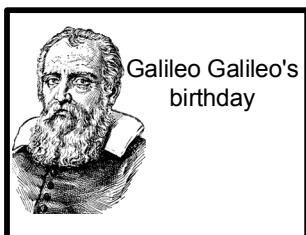
January 7, 1610, is the date that Galileo Galilei discovered the moons of Jupiter.



February 2 is Groundhog Day.



February 11, 1847, is the birth day of Thomas Alva Edison, the American inventor.



February 15, 1564, is the birth date of Galileo, the Italian astronomer who made the telescope famous.

Fill out the calendars. Staple together with the cover page on top. What is the first day of winter? Put an X on that date that date. Write in some of the important dates of winter on the calendars.

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat

March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat

True Signs of Winter

Snow clouds against a navy-blue sky;
A cold, white moon and lone star nearby;
The season has changed - bid farewell to fall;
Thoughts turn to winter - snow and all;
Cars are tuned so they'll purr like kittens;
Out of the closet come hats, scarves and mittens.
Houses are readied for winter's cold blast;
Days are shorter and shadows cast.
Snow clouds against a navy-blue sky;
A cold, white moon and lone star nearby.

Joan Adams Burchell
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Read the study guide **True Signs of Winter**. Draw a picture to go with each section of the poem.

Snow clouds against a navy-blue sky; A cold, white moon and lone star nearby;



The season has changed - bid farewell to fall; Thoughts turn to winter - snow and all.



Cars are tuned so they'll purr like kittens; Out of the closet come hats, scarves and mittens.



Houses are readied for winter's cold blast; Days are shorter and shadows cast.



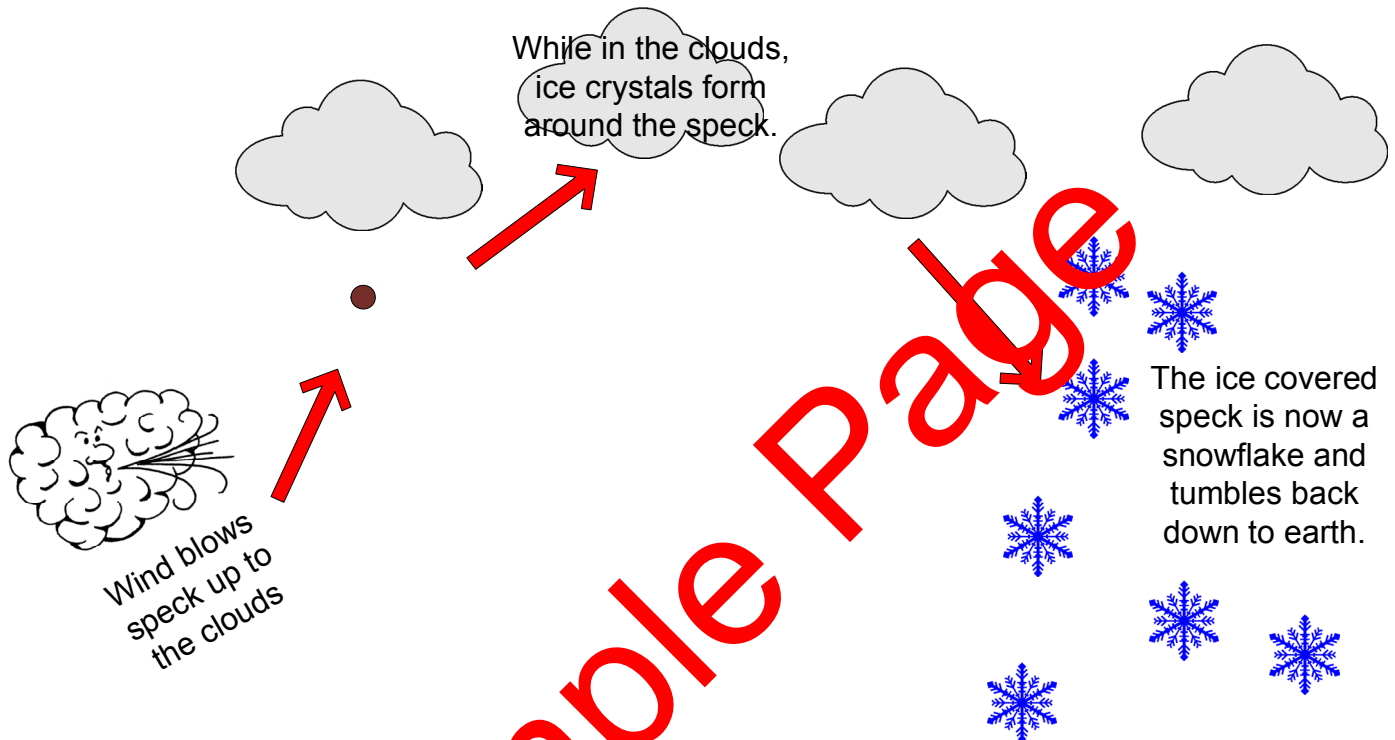
Snow clouds against a navy-blue sky; A cold, white moon and lone star nearby.



Sample Page

How are Snowflakes Formed?

God has made some very beautiful wonders in our world. Snowflakes are one of them. Did you know that no two snowflakes are alike? They may have the same number of sides or have the same basic shape, but each is unique in its own way. Snowflakes look so clean and white, yet each started with a tiny speck of dirt? Here is how it works!



Remember when we talked about how each snowflake is unique but still share some of the same characteristics? Those characteristics are determined by the temperature at which the crystals are formed.

(-30°F) - six-sided prism

(3°F-10°F) - star shaped

(10°F-18°F) and (27°F-32°F) - flat six-sided shape

(23°F-27°F) - long needles

As the crystals grow larger, they get heavy and fall to the ground. As they fall to the ground, the crystals bump together and form snowflakes. Snowflakes can be made up of anywhere from 2-20 separate crystals. Next time it snows, take your microscope outside and catch snowflakes on a microscope glass slide. Now view the slide. You should be able to see individual crystals. Clean the slide and try it again! Before taking your microscope back inside, put it in a big zip-lock bag so that the optics will not form moisture on them.