

Seasonal/Holiday

PUNXSUTAWNEY GROUNDHOG DAY



VIRTUAL *Field trip*

LET'S TRAVEL! *Pennsylvania*



Describe Pennsylvania's importance in the history of the United States of America.



SOCIAL STUDIES

Travel to Punxsutawney ,
Pennsylvania to learn about the
history of Groundhog Day.
Discover the importance of
Pennsylvania in the history of
United States of America.

LET'S EXPLORE! *What is Groundhog Day?*

Groundhog Day is celebrated each year on February 2nd. On this day people rely on the groundhog to predict the weather for the next six weeks. According to folklore, if the groundhog comes out of his burrow on this day and sees his shadow there will be winter for six more weeks. However, if he does not see his shadow, then spring will come early.

This celebration is popular in North America. The tradition of Groundhog Day came from German settlers. In 1886, a Pennsylvania newspaper declared February 2nd as Groundhog Day, naming the local groundhog as Punxsutawney Phil. Since then the day and tradition has spread throughout the United States, but the largest celebration takes place in Punxsutawney, PA each year.



Highlight in the passage where the answers to the questions below can be found.

1. When is Groundhog Day celebrated?
2. What does the holiday predict?
3. Where does the largest Groundhog Day celebration take place?
4. Who started the holiday tradition?

INTEGRATES READING

Short reading passages
build background and
introduce key vocabulary.

SCIENCE:

Learn about the science of lights and shadows.


LET'S EXPLORE *What are shadows?*

What are the 7 different colors that we see light in?

Name 3 different sources of light.

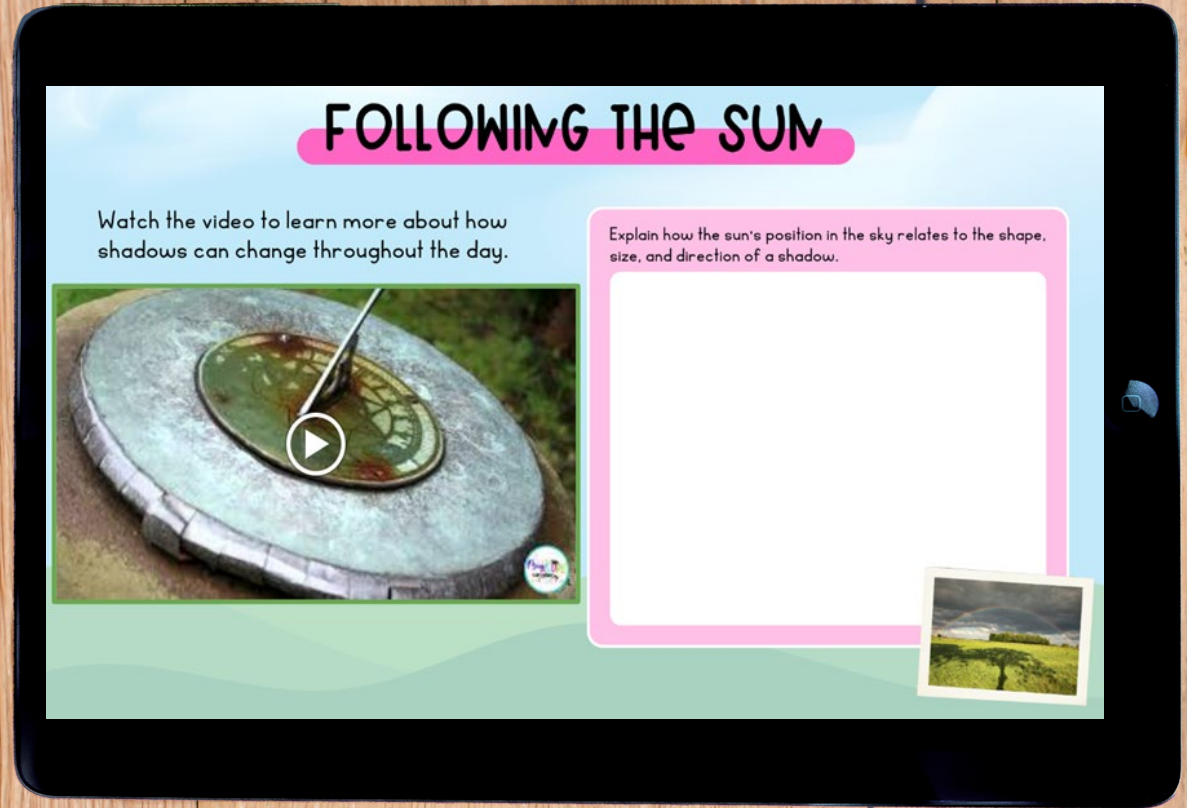
What makes a shadow?

Have you ever seen your own shadow? Where?

A video player showing a girl on a beach with a play button icon. The scene is a bright, sunny day on a tropical beach. A girl with dark hair in a bun, wearing a purple swimsuit and sunglasses, is kneeling on the sand. She is looking towards the camera. To her right is a palm tree. In the background, there is a blue ocean, a yellow sun, and green hills. A shadow of the girl is cast on the sand to her right. A play button icon is overlaid on the video.


ENGAGING & EDUCATIONAL MEDIA

Videos and multimedia engage students in the topic, leading to deeper understanding.




FOLLOWING THE SUN

Watch the video to learn more about how shadows can change throughout the day.



Explain how the sun's position in the sky relates to the shape, size, and direction of a shadow.



LET'S PREDICT!

Do you think Punxsutawney Phil will see his shadow this year? Knowing the weather might help you make an accurate prediction. Click the photo to view the current weather forecast in the city. Then, make your prediction below.



Explain your prediction. Why do you think there will be an early Spring or longer Winter?

I predict...

Six more weeks of

Early Spring



MAKE PREDICTIONS AND WATCH THE FOOTAGE

Students dive deep into this engaging topic and learn to draw conclusions and make judgements.

Suggested Uses

- Assign in Google Classroom or SeeSaw
- Whole Class Activity
- Small groups or center
- Early Finisher
- Incentive or Fun Friday

Google Slides and SeeSaw



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