

# The seasons

## Test yourself

4-5

- 1 a** Copy and complete the sentences below.

The seasons happen because

In winter Britain is tilted

In summer the Sun is higher in the sky and

In an Australian summer the Sun's rays hit the Earth more directly because

the Earth's axis is tilted.

the Earth orbits the Sun.

away from the Sun.

towards the Sun.

the days are shorter.

the days are longer.

the axis is tilted towards the Sun.

the axis is tilted away from the Sun.

- b** Imagine that you spend the summer holidays in Australia. Write a short paragraph to explain which way the Earth is tilted in the Southern hemisphere and why there will be a difference in the way the Sun is tracked across the sky in the Northern and Southern hemispheres.



FIGURE 1: Australia during the British summer.

## Creative

5-6

- 2** Complete either activity **a** or **b**.

**a** Explain what it would be like to live on a planet that did not tilt on its axis.

**b** The Earth orbits the Sun in a slight elliptical orbit. Comets orbit the Sun in very large elliptical orbits, passing close to the Sun and then travelling great distances into space. What would it be like to live on a planet with such an elliptical orbit?

Present your work as a diary of changes in the weather over the period of one year.

## Digital

7-8

- 3** Imagine that you live in northern Finland! Use the Internet to research the problems of living in the very far reaches of the Northern hemisphere. Describe the day length and the problems encountered by the plants and animals that live in these harsh conditions. Present your work as an illustrated fact sheet for the Christmas tourists.