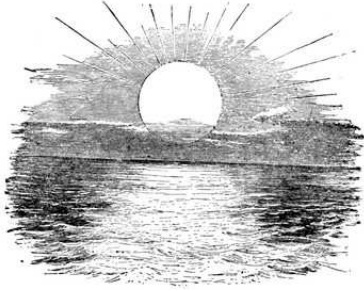


I Know This One



Mr. Chase is an intermediate school science teacher. Each year he conducts a Science Bee, similar to a Spelling Bee, and invites all the fifth and sixth graders to participate. He tells them what the possible subjects will be for the contest, gives them ample time to study, and even offers to coach them. For Mr. Chase, the real focus of his Science Bee has never been about winning but rather about finding a fun way to challenge his students to learn and share his love for science.

James was one of Mr. Chase's most promising and eager students, and he was taking his Science Bee preparation very seriously. He studied all the science terms on the list and attended all the practice sessions. James felt very ready for the contest. The auditorium had filled with observers, and the contestants were a little nervous. Finally, there were only two participants left in the competition: James and a young lady named Carol. Carol was asked to explain what the winter solstice was. She drew a complete blank and could not answer. Mr. Chase looked at James and told him that if he could answer, he would be the next Science Bee winner.

James swallowed hard and said, "I know this one. The winter solstice takes place around December 21st each year. It happens when the Earth is tilted its furthest distance away from the sun, and it makes the shortest day of the year with the least amount of daylight." James gave a huge sigh of relief when Mr. Chase nodded approval and announced that he had won. The audience applauded, and James was glad he had studied so hard.

1. Each year Mr. Chase conducts a _____ Bee at school.
(Typing, Spelling, Science)
2. The main focus of the Science Bee is to _____ his students.
(frighten, challenge, annoy)
3. In the story, _____ was one of Mr. Chase's best students.
(Allen, Marcus, James)
4. James was able to answer the final question about the _____.
(sunset, weather, solstice)