



SUMMER!

It's very hot where I live. It's the summer. The day starts off alright but by about 10 o'clock, the sun begins beating down on us. By the afternoon, it's so hot that we have to stay indoors. We need lots of juices and other liquids to stay cool on such hot days. My favourite is lime soda, buttermilk and tender coconut. We have three coconut trees in our garden; so we get the tender coconuts for free! My mother makes a great, big jug of buttermilk in the afternoon and we drink it all up by the evening.

It starts to cool down a little bit by the evening. Then, all the kids come out of their homes to play. It's great fun. We ride our cycles down the street, we play cricket, hide and seek, chase and anything else we can think of.

Sometimes, in the evening, our parents will take us out to the beach. The water feels so cool and refreshing. We play in the waves, dig holes in the sand, eat corn on the cob and fried peanuts and come back home only in time for dinner.

Rarely, very rarely, we get rain on a really hot day. That feels so wonderful! The aroma of rain falling on hot ground must be the most amazing thing in the world. For a few hours, the day cools down. We go out and play earlier than usual. We get to play for longer than usual. But before we know it, the sun comes out and it's HOT again.

Soon, summer will end and the rains will come in. It will rain for days together and everything will be wet and sticky. Until then, I'm just going to enjoy my summer.



Questions

1. What season of the year is it for the child who is narrating?

2. What does this child like to drink during the summer? How does it help?

3. When do the children go out to play?

4. Use a dictionary to find out what the word 'petrichor' means. Is it talked about anywhere in this passage?

5. Why do you think the word HOT is written in capitals?

6. Which season, do you think, is the child's favourite season of the year?



Answers:

- 1) It's the summer where this child lives.
- 2) He likes to drink juices, buttermilk and tender coconut. It helps to keep his body cool.
- 3) The children go out to play in the evening, when it's not so hot any more.
- 4) The word petrichor means 'a pleasant smell that frequently accompanies the first rain after a long period of warm, dry weather'. It is used in this passage to describe what happens after rain on a hot day.
- 5) The word 'hot' is written in capitals to indicate that after a pleasant rain, the hot summer day seems even hotter.
- 6) I think that summer might be the child's favourite season. I think this because he says that when the rains come everything will be wet and sticky; and that he's going to enjoy the summer heat until then.

Answer key:

Please remember that you need to reward your child's ability to reason and use language creatively. The above are only examples of answers. If your child has constructed an answer that is different to this but that is grammatical and sound in its reasoning, mark it as correct.

