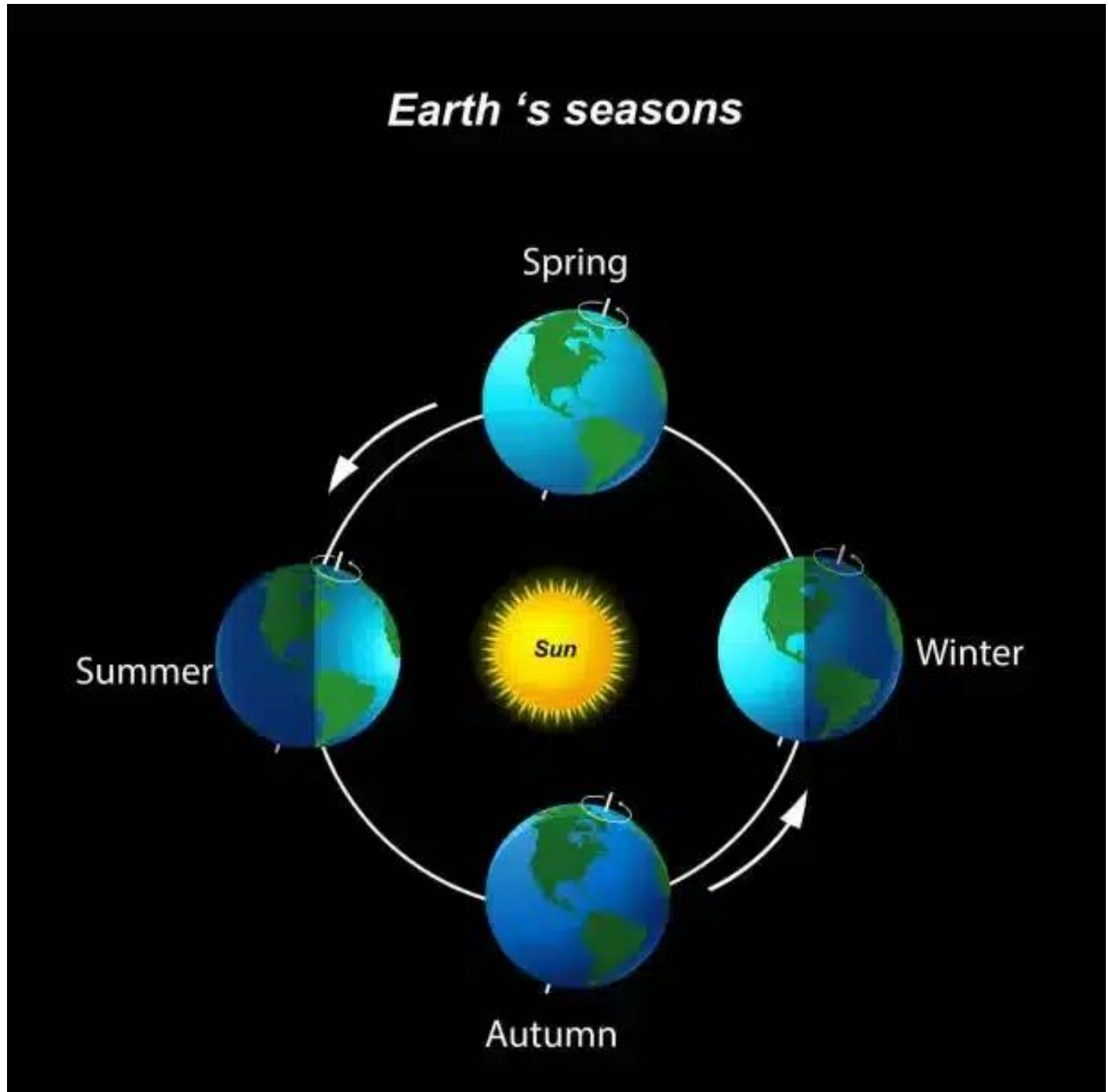


What is the Spring Equinox?

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About Spring Equinox

- As Earth revolves around the Sun, there are **two moments each year** when the **Sun is exactly above the equator**.

- These moments — **called equinoxes** — **occur around March 19, 20 or 21 and September 22 or 23.**
 - Equinox literally **means “equal night,”** since the **length of day and night is nearly equal in all parts of the world during the equinoxes.**
 - The **March equinox marks when the Northern Hemisphere starts to tilt toward the sun,** which means **longer, sunnier days.**
 - **In the Northern Hemisphere, the March equinox is called the vernal equinox,** because it **signals the beginning of spring** (vernal means fresh or new like the spring).
 - The **September equinox is called the autumnal equinox,** because it marks the first day of fall (autumn).
 - When the Northern Hemisphere starts to tilt toward the sun in spring, the **Southern Hemisphere starts to tilt away from the sun, signaling the start of fall.**
 - Thus, **in the Southern Hemisphere, the March equinox is called the autumnal equinox,** and the September equinox is called the vernal equinox.
 - While the **March equinox brings later sunrises, earlier sunsets, chillier winds and dry, falling leaves in the Southern Hemisphere,** while the **reverse happens in the Northern Hemisphere.**
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Q1: What is Solstice?

A solstice is an event in which a planet's poles are most extremely inclined toward or away from the star it orbits. On our planet, solstices are defined by solar declination—the latitude of Earth where the sun is directly overhead at noon. On Earth, solstices are twice-yearly phenomena in which solar declination reaches the Tropic of Cancer in the north and the Tropic of Capricorn in the south. During the June solstice (marked between June 20 and June 22), solar declination is about 23.5°N (the Tropic of Cancer). During the December solstice (marked between December 20 and December 23), solar declination is about 23.5°S (the Tropic of Capricorn).

Source: Spring Begins. Know About Vernal Equinox That Brings on A New Season

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/spring-equinox/>

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