



Summer Time Fun

RhymeLovingWriter™

Category/categories: Secular, Seasonal, Educational, Nature, Fun

Ages: 4-12 (estimate)

Theme: Rhyme Style Treasure Hunt/Hidden Word Search for fun and learning

This rhymed treasure hunt is centered on the summer solstice, usually June 20th/21st, which marks the first day of summer. Because it is also the longest day of the year for the northern hemisphere, the word L-O-N-G is hidden in five of the rhymed clues.

The following pages include:

- A six-line rhymed stanza for each clue (ten total)
- Five text boxes with 'Fun Facts' to share along the way
- Bonus page with only the text of the clues printed—to use for L-O-N-G search—hide copies of this with the treasure for the final fun activity

After the hunt for clues/treasure is through, each child can use his/her copy of a sheet with all of the typed clues to hunt for the five clues containing the word 'long'.

Summer is officially upon us—time for another treasure hunt!

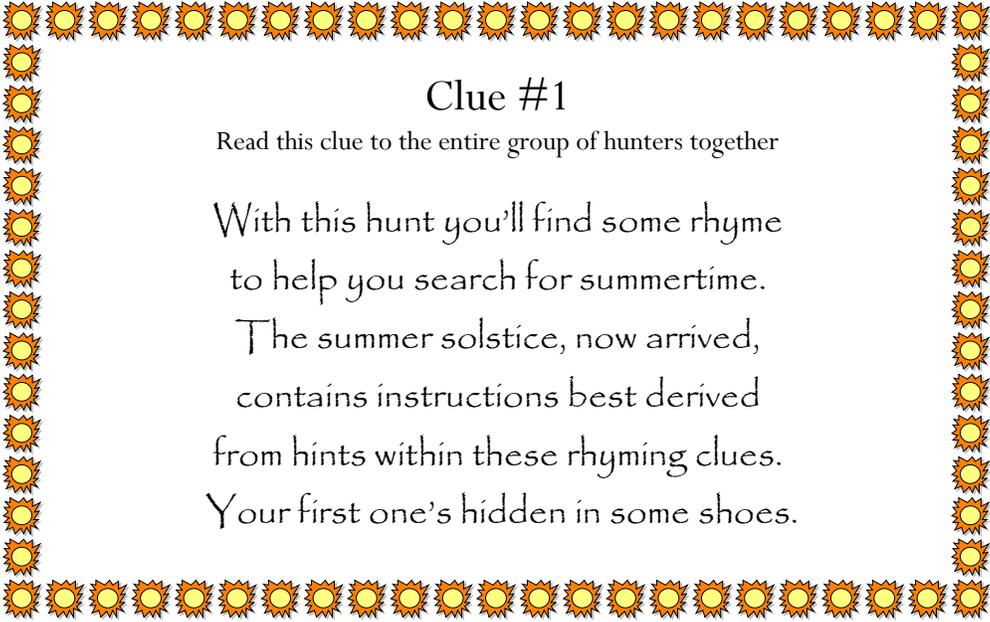
Happy Rhyming (and hunting)!

An adult or older child needs to hide clues and treasure prior to start of the hunt - preferably without being seen!

Suggested prizes:

Popsicles, sidewalk chalk, sunscreen, pool/yard/sandbox toys, sun cakes (yellow cupcakes w/frosting supplies to decorate), coupon for summer privileges (i.e. stay up late one night, pool visit, etc.)

Optional: extra prizes for those who find all five times the word 'long' was in a clue on the bonus sheet (i.e. pixie stix candy, long john donuts, coupon for longer gaming time, etc.)



Clue #1

Read this clue to the entire group of hunters together

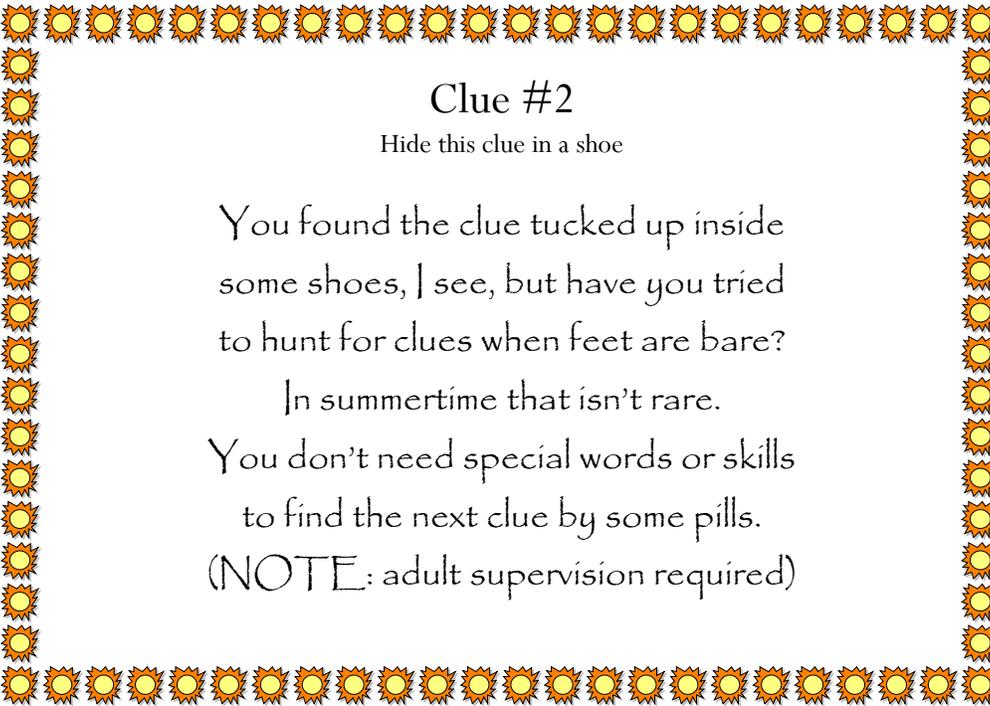
With this hunt you'll find some rhyme
to help you search for summertime.

The summer solstice, now arrived,
contains instructions best derived
from hints within these rhyming clues.

Your first one's hidden in some shoes.

Fun Facts to share while hunting for the next clue:

- Summer in the northern hemisphere is considered to run from a date beginning around June 20-22 and ending on September 22.
- This date is also known as estival solstice, or midsummer.
- Solstice is derived from the Latin words sol (sun) and sistere (to stand still).



Clue #2

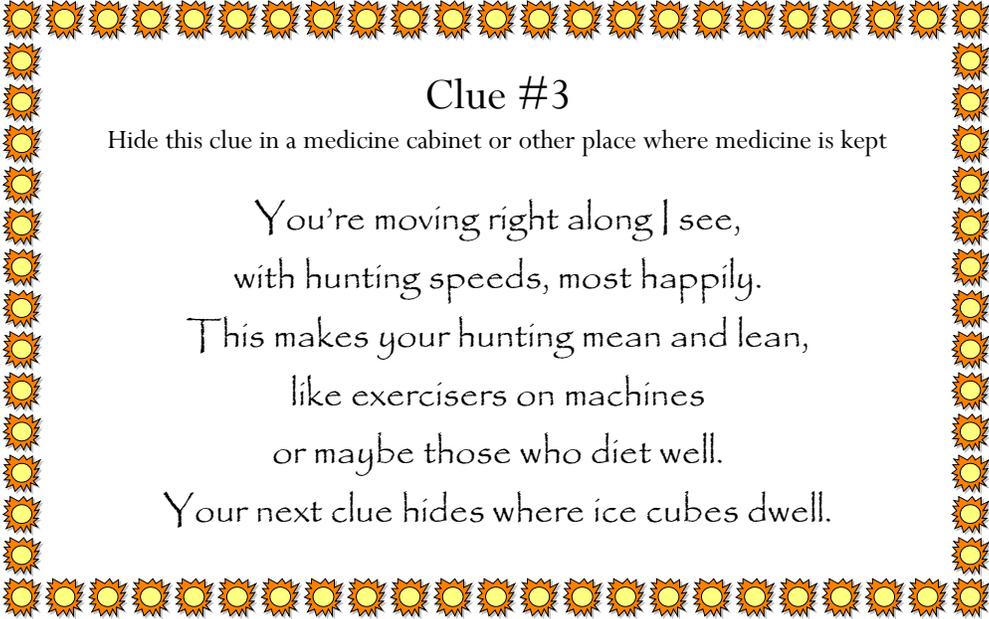
Hide this clue in a shoe

You found the clue tucked up inside
some shoes, I see, but have you tried
to hunt for clues when feet are bare?

In summertime that isn't rare.

You don't need special words or skills
to find the next clue by some pills.

(NOTE: adult supervision required)



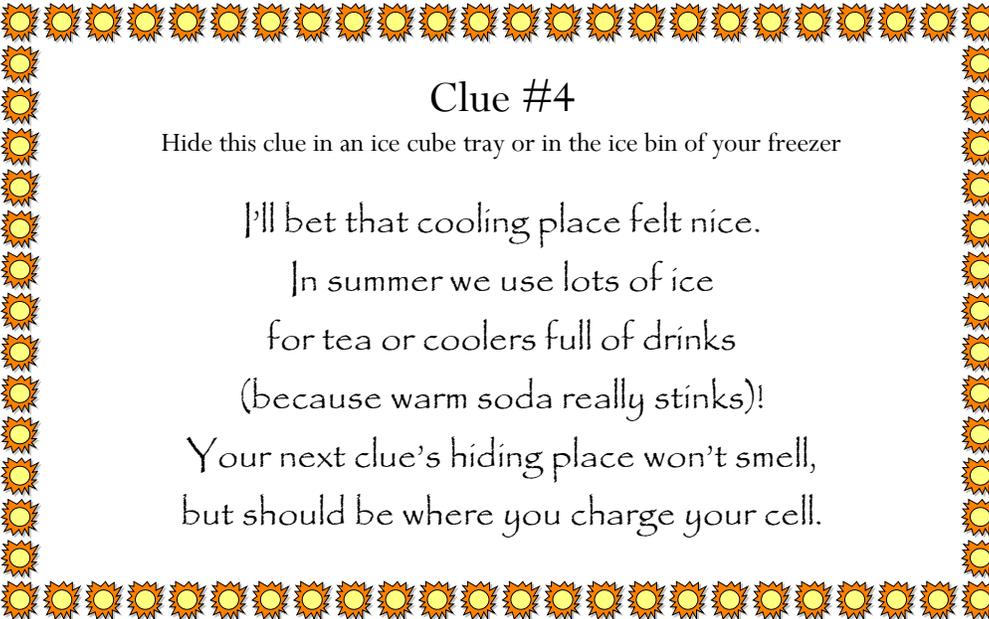
Clue #3

Hide this clue in a medicine cabinet or other place where medicine is kept

You're moving right along I see,
with hunting speeds, most happily.
This makes your hunting mean and lean,
like exercisers on machines
or maybe those who diet well.
Your next clue hides where ice cubes dwell.

Fun Facts to share while hunting for the next clue:

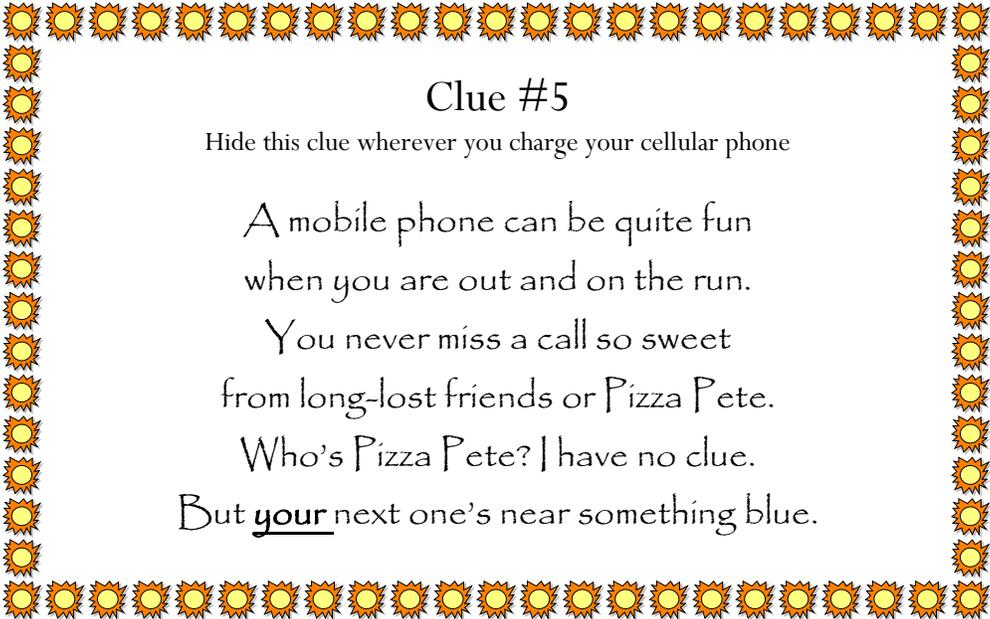
- The date of the beginning of summer varies according to climate, tradition and culture.
- In southern and southeast Asia, where the monsoon occurs, summer is more generally defined as lasting from March, April, May and June, the warmest time of the year, ending with the onset of the monsoon rains.



Clue #4

Hide this clue in an ice cube tray or in the ice bin of your freezer

I'll bet that cooling place felt nice.
In summer we use lots of ice
for tea or coolers full of drinks
(because warm soda really stinks)!
Your next clue's hiding place won't smell,
but should be where you charge your cell.



Clue #5

Hide this clue wherever you charge your cellular phone

A mobile phone can be quite fun
when you are out and on the run.

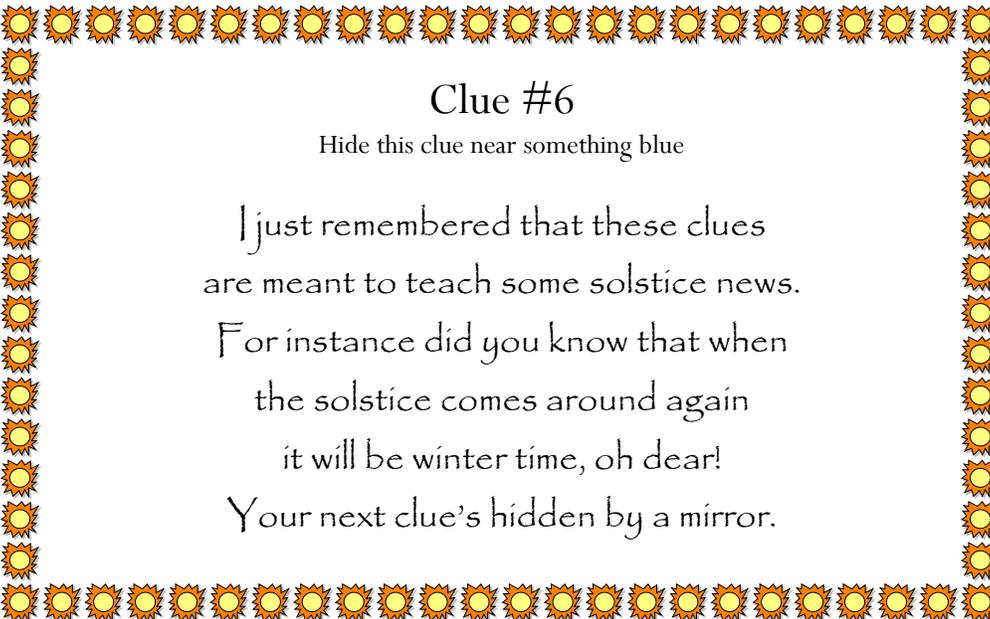
You never miss a call so sweet
from long-lost friends or Pizza Pete.

Who's Pizza Pete? I have no clue.

But your next one's near something blue.

Fun Facts to share while hunting for the next clue:

- 2016 was the first time in nearly 70 years that a full moon and the Northern Hemisphere's summer solstice concur on the same day.
- Schools and universities typically have a summer break to take advantage of the warmer weather and longer days. In almost all countries, children are out of school during this time of year for summer break, although dates vary.



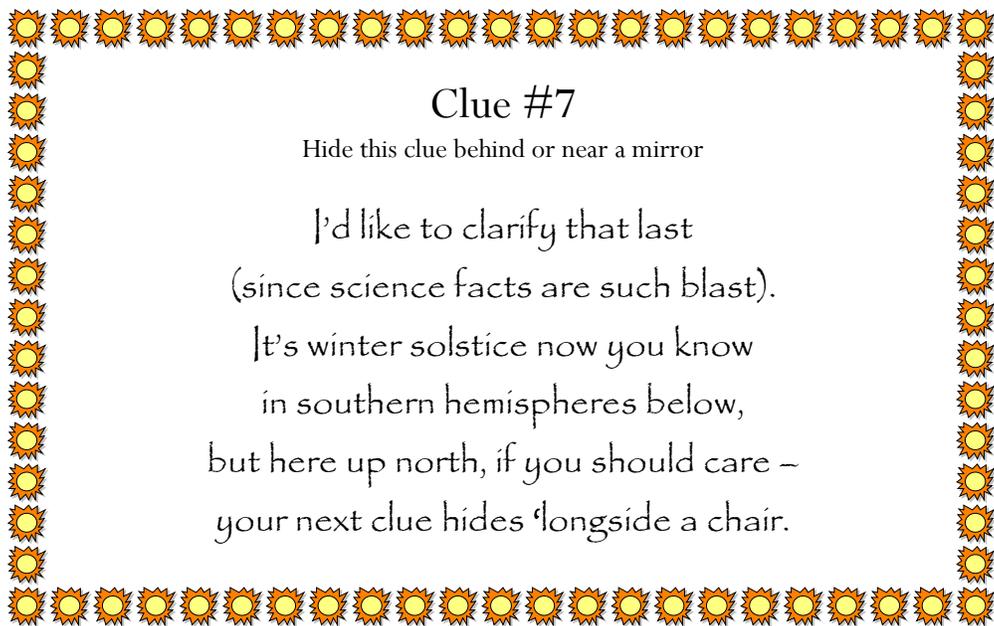
Clue #6

Hide this clue near something blue

I just remembered that these clues
are meant to teach some solstice news.

For instance did you know that when
the solstice comes around again
it will be winter time, oh dear!

Your next clue's hidden by a mirror.



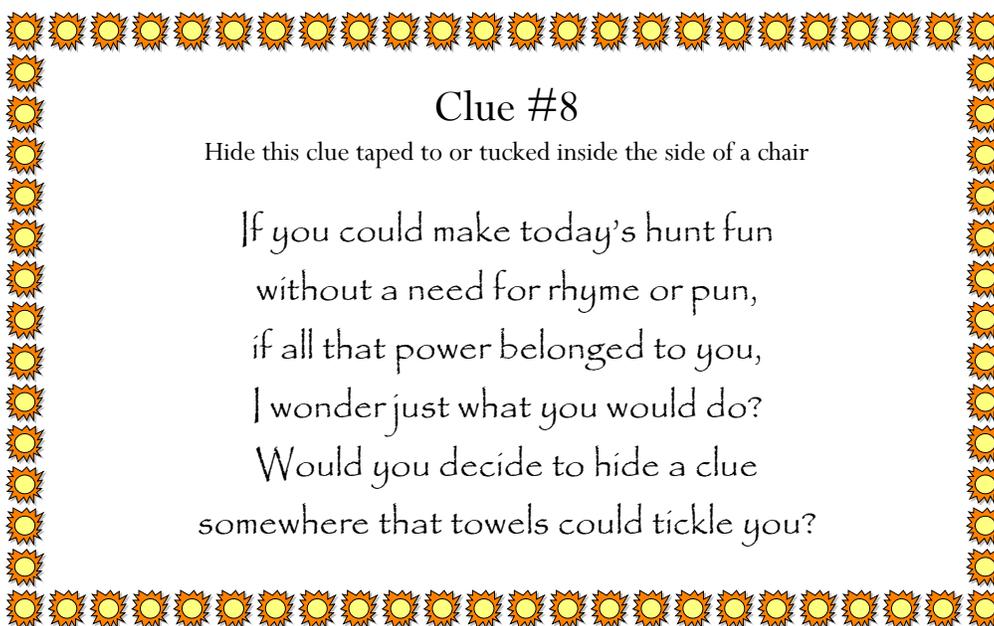
Clue #7

Hide this clue behind or near a mirror

I'd like to clarify that last
(since science facts are such blast).
It's winter solstice now you know
in southern hemispheres below,
but here up north, if you should care –
your next clue hides 'longside a chair.

Fun Facts to share while hunting for the next clue:

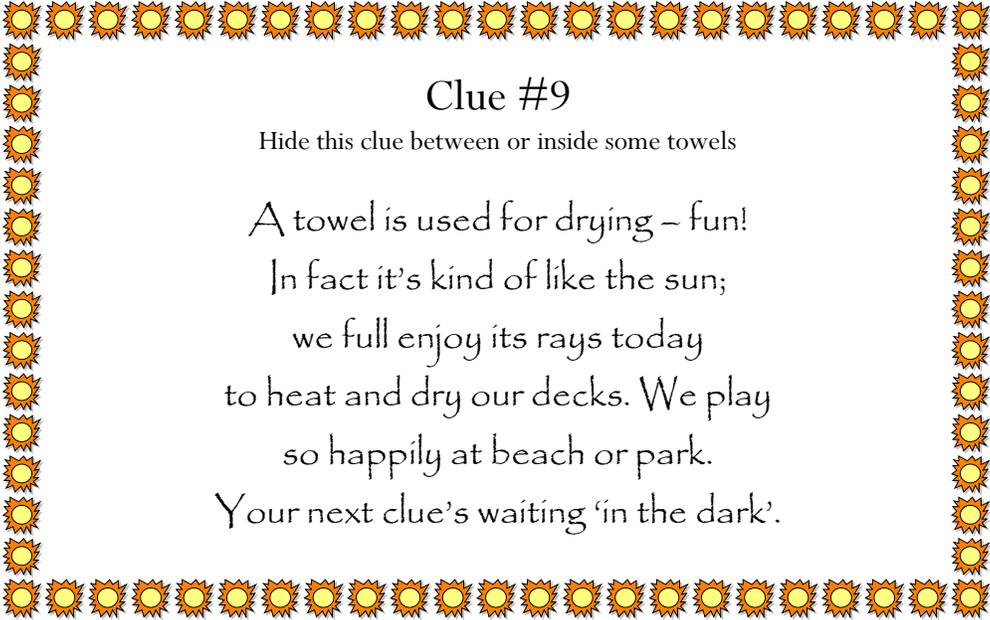
- In the Southern Hemisphere, school summer holiday dates include the major holidays of Christmas and New Year's Day.
- In some regions, the summer solstice is seen as the beginning of summer and the end of spring. In other cultural conventions, the solstice is closer to the middle of summer.



Clue #8

Hide this clue taped to or tucked inside the side of a chair

If you could make today's hunt fun
without a need for rhyme or pun,
if all that power belonged to you,
I wonder just what you would do?
Would you decide to hide a clue
somewhere that towels could tickle you?



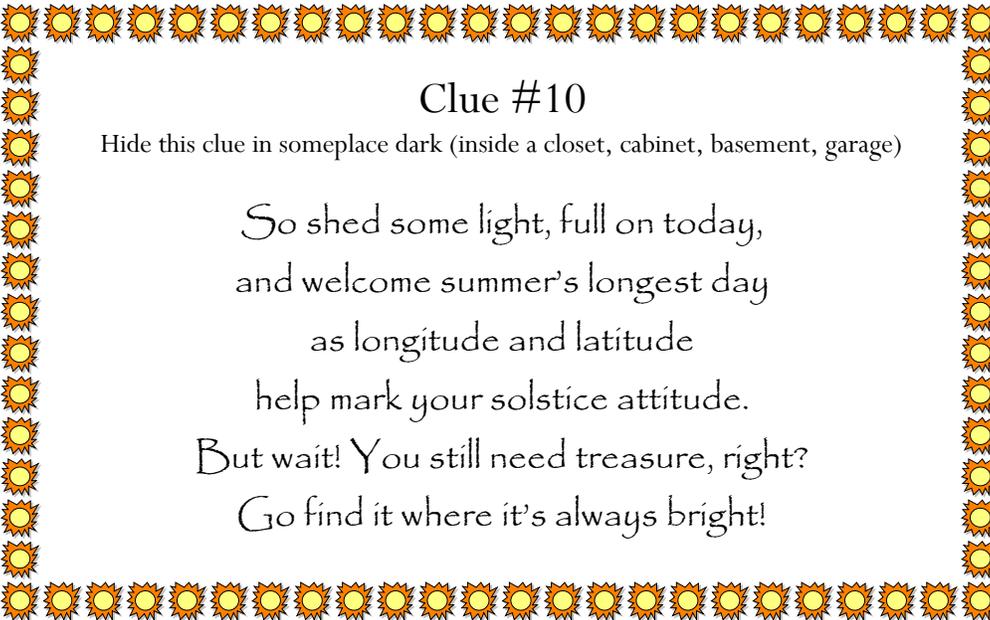
Clue #9

Hide this clue between or inside some towels

A towel is used for drying – fun!
In fact it's kind of like the sun;
we full enjoy its rays today
to heat and dry our decks. We play
so happily at beach or park.
Your next clue's waiting 'in the dark'.

Fun Facts to share while hunting for the next clue:

- In India, school ends in April and resumes in late June or early July.
- The summer solstice day has the longest period of daylight, except in the polar regions, where daytime remains continuous for 24 hours every day during a period ranging from a few days to six months around the summer solstice.



Clue #10

Hide this clue in someplace dark (inside a closet, cabinet, basement, garage)

So shed some light, full on today,
and welcome summer's longest day
as longitude and latitude
help mark your solstice attitude.
But wait! You still need treasure, right?
Go find it where it's always bright!

BONUS PAGE

Hide this page plus pencil (one copy/person playing) with treasure somewhere in sun or under bright light

It may be that the hunting's through, but here's a *new* surprise for you
In northern hemispheric way, we're marking now the L-O-N-G-est day
In several clues we've hidden 'long' - just circle them to play along
(hint: there are five total)

With this hunt you'll find some rhyme to help you search for summertime.

The summer solstice, now arrived, contains instructions best derived
from hints within these rhyming clues. Your first one's hidden in some shoes.

You found the clue tucked up inside some shoes, I see, but have you tried
to hunt for clues when feet are bare? In summertime that isn't rare.
You don't need special words or skills to find the next clue by some pills.

(NOTE: this requires adult supervision)

You're moving right along I see, with hunting speeds, most happily.

This makes your hunting mean and lean, like exercisers on machines
or maybe those who diet well. Your next clue hides where ice cubes dwell.

I'll bet that cooling place felt nice. In summer we use lots of ice
for drinks or coolers full of drinks (because warm soda really stinks!)
Your next clue's hiding place won't smell, but should be where you charge your cell.

A mobile phone can be quite fun when you are out and on the run.
You never miss a call so sweet from long-lost friends or Pizza Pete.
Who's Pizza Pete? I have no clue. But your next one's near something blue.

I just remembered that these clues are meant to teach some solstice news.
For instance did you know that when the solstice comes around again
it will be winter time, oh dear! Your next clue's hidden by a mirror.

I'd like to clarify that last (since science facts are such blast).
it's winter solstice now you know in southern hemispheres below,
but here up north, if you should care - your next clue hides alongside chair.

If you could make today's hunt fun without a need for rhyme or pun,
if all that power belonged to you, I wonder just what you would do?
Would you decide to hide a clue somewhere that towels could tickle you?

A towel is used for drying - fun! In fact it's kind of like the sun;
we full enjoy its rays today to heat and dry our decks. We play
so happily at beach or park. Your next clue's waiting 'in the dark'.

So shed some light, full on today, and welcome summer's longest day
as longitude and latitude help mark your solstice attitude.
But wait! You still need treasure, right? Go find it where it's always bright!