

Name _____ Earth Science Date _____

Suns' Path Facts Sheet

Important Latitudes: You should be familiar with the paths of the sun at these locations.

0°- the equator is the location of the sun's vertical ray on the equinoxes

23.5° N- the Tropic of Cancer is the location of the sun's vertical ray on the summer solstice

23.5° S- the Tropic of Capricorn is the location of the sun's vertical ray on the winter solstice

40°-45° N- NY state is located here

66.5° N- The arctic circle- from here to the North pole there are days when the sun never rises (winter) and days when the sun never sets (summer)

66.5° S- The Antarctic circle- from here to the South pole there are days when the sun never rises (winter) and days when the sun never sets (summer)

90° N- The north pole- 24 hours of daylight for Spring and summer months (March 21- September 23).

90° S- The south pole- 24 hours of daylight for fall and winter months (September 23 – March 21)

Important Dates

March 21 & September 23

Equinoxes

Sun rises due east and sets due west

Vertical Ray at 0°

June 21

Summer solstice

Sun rises in the northeast and sets in the northwest

Vertical ray at 23.5° N

December 21

Winter Solstice

Sun rises in the southeast and sets in the southwest

Drawing Sun's Path

Place a point at the locations of sunrise and sunset

Place another point at the altitude of the noon sun (changes by 23.5° each season).

Latitude: _____

Date Observed: _____

