# Investigation 2 How much sunshine is in your neighbourhood?



## Task: *Find out how the hours of sunshine change over a year.*

The amount of daylight (and sunshine) is different every day. Winter days are shorter, summer days are longer. This is important for solar power.

## Please answer the following questions

- When is the longest day of the year in the southern hemisphere?
- About how many hours of daylight does the longest day (approximately) have where you live?
- When is the shortest day of the year in the southern hemisphere?
- About how many hours of daylight (approximately) is this?

The longest and shortest days are called the summer and winter solstice. It's also the day when the sun is highest or lowest in the sky.

## Please answer the following questions

- In winter, is the sun higher or lower in the sky?
- What difference does this make to 'passive solar' heating?
- Does daylight saving make any difference to the length of daylight?

## [Extra link]: Sunshine maps

The **Bureau of Meteorology** records the number of hours of sunshine all across Australia. They use these measurements to make climate maps that show the hours of sunshine.
http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/climate/cgi_bin_scripts/sunshine-hrs.cgi

Use the maps to find the sunshine hours per day for where you live, and then answer the following.

| | |
|---|---|
| Annual average = | |
| July = | |
| January = | |